THE NEW
SUNDAY EXPRESS
BENGALURU • SUNDAY • APRIL 24, 2022 • ₹12.00 • PAGES 26 • LATE CITY EDITION

Hanuman Chalisa row: Rana couple arrested

Mumbai police on Saturday arrested MLA Ravi Rana and his wife, MP Navneet Rana, for allegedly "creating enmity between different groups". The couple had earlier cancelled their plan to recite the Hanuman Chalisa outside Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray's private residence 'Matoshree' in Mumbai | **P10**

ASHOK GEHLOT
Chief Minister, Rajasthan

सत्यमेव जयते
Government of Rajasthan

A Historic, Humane Decision

Rajasthan Implements Old Pension Scheme

A Major Step towards Employee Welfare and Development of the State

Rajasthan Government in its 2022-23 Budget has announced to implement the Old-Pension Scheme (OPS) for all government employees appointed on or after 1 January, 2004. Under this, employees will get benefits like pension/family pension, gratuity and commuted pension amount, making them much stronger socio-economically.

10% monthly salary deduction under NPS has been stopped and employees are getting increased salary from 1 April 2022. Additionally, amount remaining after adjustment of Pensioner Medical Fund (RGHS) from salary deduction will be given with interest on GPF upon retirement.

Shortcomings of New Pension Scheme

- No guarantee of pension
- Mandatory 10% contribution by employee
- National Human Rights Commission has asked Govt of India to set up Committee for review of NPS for safeguarding human rights of employees
- Second National Judicial Pay Commission has recommended that NPS should not be implemented for Judicial Services
- Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and Punjab have set up committees to review NPS
- The New Pension Scheme was not implemented for Armed Forces. This clearly shows that the Old Pension Scheme provided sufficient social security to these employees.

CAG has revealed shocking facts about implementation, planning and monitoring of NPS:

- Even after 15 years from introduction of NPS, rules on service conditions/retirement benefits in respect of employees covered by NPS are still pending for finalisation
- There is neither any indication whether actuarial evaluation of the Scheme was conducted once in 2 years, nor has there been adoption of any other mechanism to assess the viability of the Scheme
- Assurance on 100% coverage of eligible employees is still lacking in the Scheme

Advantages of the Old Pension Scheme

- Pension Guarantee: Employee gets 50% of the last monthly salary as pension every month
- Employee does not have to pay any contribution
- Dearness relief for securing employees against inflation
- Commutation of pension up to 33%

Positive Impact of OPS on State's Development

- Personnel will be more motivated towards work, leading to good governance.
- More meritorious and talented candidates will apply for new vacancies.
- Implementation of old pension scheme will not result in deduction of even a single rupee from development expenditure of the state and welfare of its people.

#Rajasthan_NPS2OPS

Department of Information and Public Relations
Government of Rajasthan

Rajasthan Samwad

Host University JAIN

Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu
Hon'ble Vice President of India

Shri Thaawar Chand Gehlot
Hon'ble Governor of Karnataka

Shri Basavaraj Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka

KHELO INDIA UNIVERSITY GAMES
BENGALURU, KARNATAKA 2021

Shri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India

KHELO INDIA UNIVERSITY GAMES 2021

OPENING CEREMONY

24th April 2022, Sunday - 4:00 PM Onwards

VENUE: SREE KANTEERAVA INDOOR STADIUM, BENGALURU, KARNATAKA

Inauguration of the Games

Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu
Hon'ble Vice President of India

August Presence

Shri Thaawar Chand Gehlot
Hon'ble Governor of Karnataka

Guests of Honour

Shri Basavaraj Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka

Shri Anurag Singh Thakur
Hon'ble Union Minister of Youth Affairs & Sports, Information and Broadcasting, Government of India

Shri Nisith Pramanik
Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India

Shri Basavaraja S. Horatti
Hon'ble Chairperson, Karnataka Legislative Council

Dr. K. C. Narayana Gowda
Hon'ble Minister of Sericulture, Youth Empowerment and Sports, Government of Karnataka

Dr. Ashwathnarayan C. N.
Hon'ble Minister of Higher Education, IT and BT, Science and Technology and Skill Development, Entrepreneurship and Livelihood, Government of Karnataka

Shri P. C. Mohan
Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Bengaluru Central

Presided by

Shri Rizwan Arshad
Hon'ble Member of Legislative Assembly, Shivajinagara Assembly Constituency

Dr. K. Govinda Raj
Hon'ble Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Legislative Council and President, Karnataka Olympic Association

Col. Dr. G. Thiruvasagam
Hon'ble President, Association of Indian Universities, New Delhi

Shri K. P. Purushottam
Hon'ble Vice Chairman, Sports Authority of Karnataka

Dr. Chenraj Roychand
Chancellor, JAIN Deemed-to-be University

Hon'ble Ministers, MPs, MLAs MLCs and other peoples's representatives will be present

ALL ARE WELCOME

Shri P. Ravi Kumar, IAS
Chief Secretary, Govt. of Karnataka

Smt. Sujata Chaturvedi, IAS
Secretary, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Govt. of India

Dr. Shalini Rajneesh, IAS
Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports, Planning, Programme Monitoring & Statistics Department, GoK

Shri G. Kumar Naik, IAS
Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Department of Higher Education, GoK

Dr. Pankaj Mittal
Secretary General, Association of Indian Universities (A.I.U)

Shri Sandip Pradhan, IRS
Director General, Sports Authority of India

Shri Alok Kumar, IPS
Additional Director General of Police, Karnataka State Reserve Police, Special Officer K.I.U.G. - 2021

Shri Rajender Kumar Kataria, IAS
Principal Secretary, Transport and Horticulture Department & Special Officer K.I.U.G. – 2021

Dr. H. N. Gopala Krishna, IAS
Commissioner, Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports & Director, Govt Flying Training School

WELCOME TO INDIA'S BIGGEST UNIVERSITY GAMES & FIRST EVER GREEN GAMES

SCHEDULE - KHELO INDIA UNIVERSITY GAMES 2021

VENUE		GAME	PLAY AREA	DATE
THE JAIN UNIVERSITY GLOBAL CAMPUS	1	Wrestling	Sprintoor	30th April to 2nd May
	2	Weighlifting		24th April to 27th April
	3	Volleyball	Collosseum Hall	23rd April to 26th April
	4	Judo		27th April to 30th April
	5	Kabbadi		29th April to 3rd May
	6	Swimming	Swimming Complex	25th April to 28th April
	7	Mallakhamb	Open ground Area next to Archery Ground	23rd April to 26th April
	8	Yogasana		29th April to 1st May
	9	Archery	Ground Infront of Gate No. 2	27th April to 1st May
	10	Fensing	Opposite Archery Ground	29th April to 2nd May
	11	Karate	Indoor arena of School of Engineering & Technology (SET) Campus.	30th April to 2nd May
	12	Boxing		24th April to 28th April
	13	Football	Cricket Ground (Football Ground)	24th April to 3rd May
THE JAIN SPORTS SCHOOL			The Sports School (Football Ground)	
	14	Table Tennis	Badminton Hall	29th April to 2nd May
	15	Badminton		23rd April to 27th April
	16	Tennis	Lawn Tennis Ground	25th April to 1st May
SREE KANTEERAVA STADIUM	17	Athletics	Athletics Stadium	30th April to 2nd May
	18	Basketball	Basketball Court	23rd April to 27th April
FIELD MARSHAL KM CARIAPPA STADIUM	19	Hockey	Field Marshal KM Cariappa stadium	25th April to 1st May
SAI NETAJI SUBHASH SOUTHERN CENTRE	20	Shooting	SAI Shooting Range	23rd April to 2nd May

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Police stand guard in Delhi's Jahangirpuri area. The Centre has flagged the coverage of Jahangirpuri riots by some channels | PTI

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GOVT ASKS MEDIA TO AVOID PROVOCATIVE HEADLINES

The Centre's advisory comes as some TV channels resorted to sensationalism in covering Ukraine war and Delhi riots

WARNS AGAINST SENSATIONALISM, HYPERBOLE

On the media coverage of the Russia-Ukraine conflict, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting said certain channels have been making false claims and frequently misquoting international agencies or actors. Hyperbolic headlines like '*Parmanu Putin se pareshan Zelenski*' (Zelenskyy worried about nuclear Putin) could incite viewers, it warned

NO UNPARLIAMENTARY LANGUAGE

- The ministry also took objection to a news channel carrying a clipping of a man carrying a sword in its Delhi riots coverage. It flagged claims by another that the violence was pre-planned
- Private TV channels have been told not to broadcast debates having unparliamentary and provocative language |P9

Channels

ALSO TICKED OFF FOR AIRING UNVERIFIED CCTV FOOTAGE OF JAHANGIRPURI RIOTS

CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

GAME TIME

Rehearsals being held for the Khelo India University Games, which will be inaugurated by Vice-President Venkaiah Naidu at Kanteerava Stadium in Bengaluru on Sunday | VINOD KUMAR T | INTERVIEW WITH STATE SPORTS MINISTER |P6, P13

Army doesn't want AFSPA: Rajnath

Defence minister says internal security isn't its job; forces can cross border for hot pursuit

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @Guwahati

ALL three wings of the defence forces are in favour of lifting the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, or AFSPA, from the Northeast and Jammu & Kashmir, Union defence minister Rajnath Singh said here on Saturday.

"Some people believe the Indian Army does not want AFSPA to be removed. But I want to say it clearly that the Army does not want AFSPA's imposition. The fact is the tri-services want respite from matters of internal security so that they can concentrate on their core responsibility of protecting against external threats," Singh said.

The defence minister added that internal security is not the Army's job but that of the police and central paramilitary forces. AFSPA is being withdrawn from parts of the Northeast thanks to the return of durable peace and stability, he noted. "If AFSPA is enforced somewhere, the situation is responsible for it, not the Army. People should understand this truth," he said.

Rajnath Singh at an event to felicitate war veterans in Guwahati on Saturday | EXPRESS

Singh was speaking at a programme in Guwahati where the veterans of the 1971 war were felicitated. His comments come at a time when the chorus for withdrawal of the controversial law from J&K after the Centre's decision to reduce areas in the Northeast from the purview of the Act.

"Under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, we are getting fantastic results on matters of internal as well as external security. We will eliminate terrorism from the country. If it is sponsored externally, we will not hesitate to cross the border to take action," Singh added.

Explaining the strategic advantages India got from the 1971 war, Singh said the eastern boundary is more peaceful and stable compared with the western frontier. "The kind of tension that we see on the western front, we don't see it on the eastern border as Bangladesh is a friendly country," he said.

Singh added that the problem of infiltration from Bangladesh has almost stopped.

"There is peace on the Bangladesh border and this was possible due to the rapport between the Centre and the state governments. The Northeast is advancing on the road to development," he said.

Active cases up, 4th wave knocking on state's doors?

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

THE Covid situation is making a worrisome turnaround with the active cases steadily rising even as Karnataka reported 139 fresh cases on Saturday, raising questions whether the state is moving towards the fourth wave of the pandemic.

The last time the state recorded over 100 fresh cases in a day was on March 24 when 109 additional cases were reported, after which April 21 recorded 100 cases. With the latest addition of 139 cases, the state's Covid tally has gone up to 39,46,874.

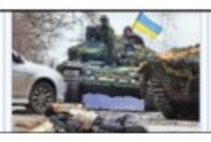
Though experts said there is no reason to panic, the active cases rose from 1,464 on April 17 to 1,679 on Saturday, with the latest figure showing a 5.26 per cent rise from the previous day's figures. In effect, the state's active cases have moved back almost a month to when Karnataka reported 1,656 active cases on March 29.

Dr CN Manjunath, Director, Jayadeva Hospital and nodal officer for testing, Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), confirmed the presence of two new sublineages of BA2 variant of the SARS-CoV-2 virus that causes Covid — BA.2.10 and BA.2.12 — which could be the reason behind the rising cases in the state. **P5**

NATIONWIDE	APR 22	APR 23
Fresh cases	2,451	2,527
Recoveries	1,589	1,656
Deaths	54	33

KARNATAKA	APR 22	APR 23
Fresh cases	90	139
Recoveries	45	55
Deaths	0	0

JAB-O-METER
TAKE YOUR SHOT
April 22
17,01,248 doses
April 23
17,15,674 doses
TOTAL DOSES
1,87,65,28,965



PUTIN'S BUTCHERS
PLUS 12 PAGES MAGAZINE WITH THIS ISSUE

No Future for Reliance

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Mumbai

Beleaguered retailer stares at bankruptcy

With the Reliance deal falling through, bankruptcy comes as a strong possibility for the beleaguered Future Retail Limited, which owes a whopping ₹29,000 crore to its lenders

RELIANCE Industries (RIL) has called off the deal to purchase the retail, wholesale, logistics and warehousing business of Future Group on Saturday after secured creditors voted against the ₹24,713 crore transaction at the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT).

On Saturday, the Mukuesh Ambani-led firm in an exchange filing said the deal can't be implemented without the backing of secured creditors. A majority of lenders to Future Group have rejected a deal involving the sale of its retail assets to RIL in the NCLT, with 69.29% voting against and only 30.71% in favour. At least 75% vote was required to pass.

Secured creditors, which include banks and financial institutions, were said to have been reluctant to vote in favour of the deal in the absence of any communication from RIL on it until voting concluded on April 21. RIL's calling off the deal means any prospective bidder for Future Retail Limited (FRL) would now have to approach the banking consortium, which holds charge on all of Future Group's assets. Bank of India, the lead consortium lender, has already initiated insolvency proceedings against the beleaguered retailer.

"Even the fixtures and inventory in the stores taken over by the landlords belong to the banks," said a source.

The Reliance-FRL deal was inked in August 2020. However, Amazon, a shareholder in Future Coupons, which in turn held a stake in FRL, opposed the deal on grounds that it violated contracts signed between itself and Future Coupons in 2019.

Now, ED inquiry against Jahangirpuri riot suspects

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ New Delhi

FOLLOWING a recommendation through a letter from Delhi Police, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) has lodged a case against Mohammedd Ansar and four other suspects in the recent Jahangirpuri violence under relevant sections of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act.

Ansar is the prime suspect in the violence that erupted on April 16 during a Ram Navami procession.

On Friday, Rakesh Asthana — the Delhi Police Commissioner — had requested the ED for a probe against Ansar and four others. During preliminary investigations, Delhi Police had found some dubious financial dealings and began suspecting that Ansar had amassed a lot of property, through unfair means.

The Delhi Police have reportedly also submitted a bunch of relevant documents against Ansar to the ED for initiating a thorough probe into his assets and his alleged role in the Jahangirpuri violence case. Sources in the Delhi Police said the Enforcement Directorate has initiated a preliminary probe to find out whether Ansar had ever received funds from any organisation earlier and used that during the Jahangirpuri violence.

3 more hijab petitioners skip PU II exam

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Udupi

THREE second pre-university science students, who are petitioners in the hijab row case, did not appear for the mathematics exam, which was the first paper in the science stream, here on Saturday.

Almas AH, Hazra Shifa and Bibi Ayisha from the Women's Government PU College, Udupi did not arrive at the exam centre at Vidyodaya PU College. Almas had taken her hall ticket on Friday evening from her college, but still skipped the exam, while the other two had not even taken the hall tickets. They have been fighting in courts for their rights to wear hijab inside classrooms.

On Friday, two other hijab petitioners and second PU commerce students -- Aliya Assadi and Resham -- from the same college had insisted that they be allowed to write the exam wearing hijab. **P4**

EXPRESS READ

IISc prof new top scientist

Bengaluru: Prof Ajay Kumar Sood from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru has been appointed the Principal Scientific Adviser to the government | **P7**

Sahitya Sammelana from Sept 23

Bengaluru: The 86th Kannada Sahithya Sammelana will be held for three days from Septmebr 23 to 25 at Haveri, said CM Basavaraj Bommai here on Saturday | **P7**

Muslims conduct Hindu woman's final rites

KARTHIK KK @ Mysuru

AT a time when the communal cauldron is boiling in the state, here is a touching incident of communal harmony in Mysuru. Muslim neighbours of a 60-yr-old Hindu woman carried her bier and performed the funeral rites as per Hindu customs here on Friday.

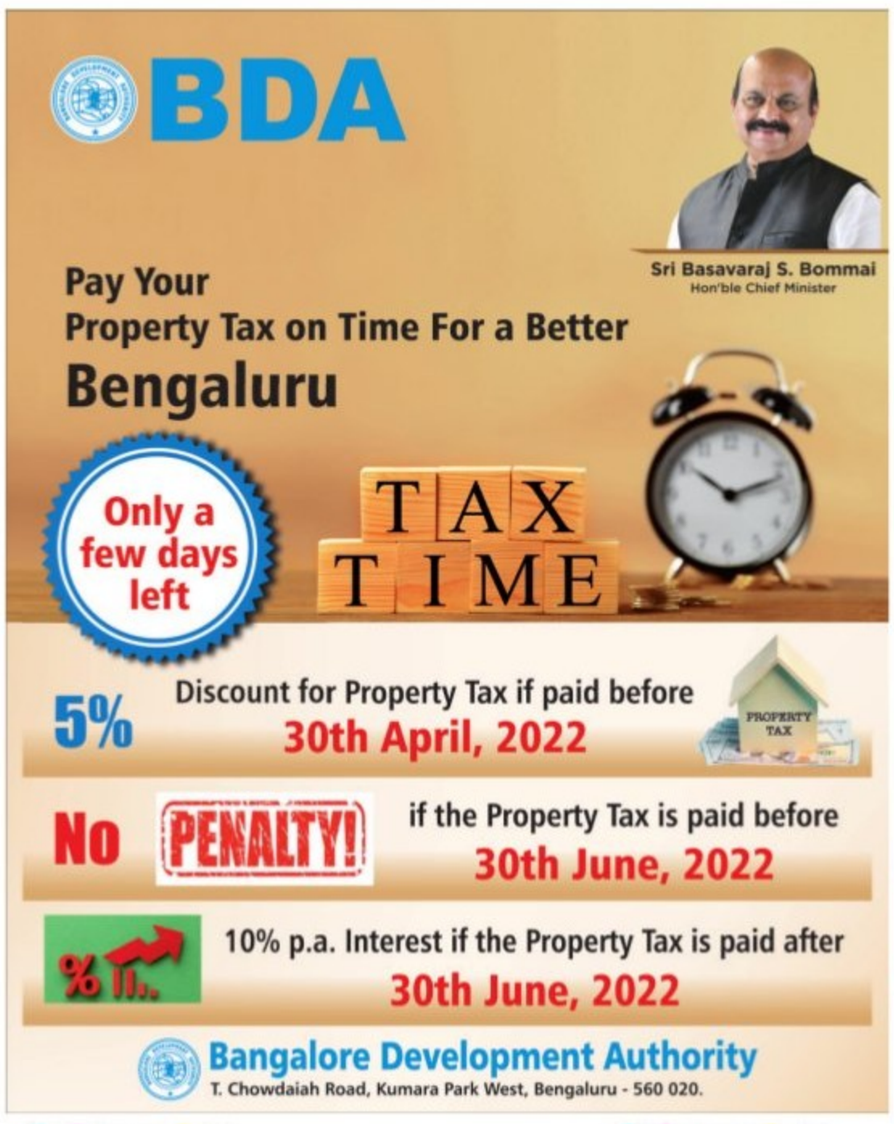
Jayakka (60) was residing at Ghousianagar, an area dominated by Muslims, for over four decades. She suffered a massive heart attack on Friday and was declared dead by doctors. She is survived by her husband and a son.

When the neighbours realised that not many relatives had come to attend her funeral, 50-60 of them decided to shoulder her bier and assist the family in conducting the final rites as per the Hindu customs, sending a loud message of social and communal harmony.

Tanveer Pasha, a social activist, who led the funeral march, said, "Jayakka lived most of her life in this area. Hers was the only Hindu family here, but we all shared a great bond. We celebrated the festivals, family occasions together. When we heard about her sudden demise, we were shocked and the best we could do was to lend our shoulder to carry the bier and give her a dignified farewell and assist the family in their darkest hour."

Muslim neighbours, who are observing Ramzan, took part in her final journey and helped the family bury her mortal remains. "Several organisations and individuals spew venom and spread hatred among communities to gain political mileage. This incident proves that Karnataka is 'Sarva Janangada Shantiya Thota' (A garden of peace where all communities live in harmony)," said Pasha.

MARCH OF THE SWACHH BRIGADE P4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Sri Basavaraj S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister
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Bengaluru
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TAX TIME
5% Discount for Property Tax if paid before 30th April, 2022
No PENALTY! if the Property Tax is paid before 30th June, 2022
10% p.a. Interest if the Property Tax is paid after 30th June, 2022
Bangalore Development Authority
T. Chowdaiah Road, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru - 560 020.

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BA (Bachelor of Arts) Ring Road Campus
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ALMANAC TODAY
Sunday: 24/04/2022 • Year: Shubhakrutha • Ayana: Uttharayana
Ritu: Vasantha • Masa: Chaitra • Paksha: Krishna • Tithi: Saptharni 9.42 am
Nakshatra: Uttharashada 9.57 pm • Moon in Kumbha Rashi • Rahukaala: 04:30 pm to 06:00 pm
Gulikakala: 03:00 pm to 04:30 pm • Yamaganda: 12:00 pm to 01:30 pm

WEATHER
MIN 23°C | MAX 34°C
FORECAST
Partly cloudy

Sunrise 6.02 am
Sunset 6.33 pm
Moonrise 1.22 am
Moonset 1.04 pm

MARCH OF THE SWACHH BRIGADE

A committed band of volunteers gathers every Sunday morning to clear Karkala town and taluk of garbage

SUCCESS STORY

Started in June 2019, Swachh Karkala Brigade has dedicated more than 224 hours to cleaning Karkala town and taluk in 112 weeks

Pledged to give 100 hours a year to their town and taluk

PRAKASH SAMAGA @Udupi

STREETS, tourist spots, mountains, river banks and historical places in Karkala, which had lost some sheen due to careless dumping of plastic waste and other non-biodegradable items, are slowly glowing again. What they needed was a sustained cleaning drive by those who cared.

Karkala, sprawling at the base of the Western Ghats in Udupi district, is on the pilgrim route, and attracts many tourists, both religious and regular. And reckless ones who leave garbage behind. It took a group of committed and passionate volunteers to start a cleaning mission in June 2019, to bring Karkala back to its pristine self. It will be three years next month, yet the resolute volunteers have only grown in dedication, and put in more than 224 hours to clean their town and taluk, working for 112 weeks.

Volunteers of Swachh Karkala Brigade, a group of like-minded citizens, are striving to make Karkala taluk litter-free. They organise cleaning drives every Sunday, from 6.30am to 8.30am, on public roads, highways and forests. The volunteers have pledged to give 100 hours a year to free their town and taluk from the garbage menace.

The team has so far organised 112 clean-up drives and removed about 500 tonnes of garbage. They have also built cost-effective and efficient dustbins from scratch, and installed more than 100 such handmade dustbins in and around Karkala taluk. Many dustbins have been installed in schools, at autorickshaw stands, bus stops and government offices.

M K Vipultej, member of Swachh Karkala Brigade, told The New Sunday Express that a clean revolution, brought about by Ramakrishna Mission in Mangaluru, and the Yuva Brigade, inspired their team to bring about a transformation in Karkala. "Our town abuts the foothills of the Western Ghats, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Karkala is also home to several historic landmarks, ancient pilgrim centres, rivers and forests, attracting tourists from all over the world. But our town was no exception to the problem of public littering. Alarmed by the massive influx of trash in public spaces, rivers, on roads and mountains, we pledged to give 100 hours a year to overcome this menace. The clarion call of Swachh Bharat by Prime Minister Narendra Modi also inspired us to take up the mission," he said. Rajendra A Amin, an entrepreneur and member of Swachh Karkala Brigade, says the mission continues to motivate all members of the brigade, who didn't know each other earlier. "We came together for a noble cause and got to know one another," he said.

Execution is simple. Amin said members visit and inspect areas which need to be cleaned, and finalise the area. Posters are made with details and shared on social media pages like Facebook and Instagram, and on WhatsApp groups. Members contact volunteer teams of the particular area where cleaning is to be done and they inform their municipal councillors, panchayat members and Panchayat Development Officers, seeking support for the cleaning drive.

On Saturday, the day before the cleaning drive, group members are assigned jobs like getting gloves, trash collection bags, cleaning tools, first aid kits, dustbins, awareness posters and other items required for Sunday's cleanliness drive, he added.

There are policemen, ex-servicemen, professors, teachers, lawyers, doctors, engineers, entrepreneurs, students, agriculturalists, photographers, among other professionals who work as volunteers for Swachh Karkala Brigade. The brigade has also initiated a programme to beautify public spaces by transforming old and dilapidated walls in public places with graffiti depicting rich Indian heritage, Tulu culture, the importance of Swachh Bharat and environment protection.

> Alarmed by the massive influx of trash in public spaces, rivers, on roads and mountains, we pledged to give 100 hours a year to overcome this menace
>
> MK Vipultej, member of Swachh Karkala Brigade

IT'S A MATCH!

PRAJNA GR @Madikeri

THE big, fat Indian wedding is now legendary. Weddings are an extravagant affair among elite and privileged families. From pre-wedding shoots to the selection of bridal outfits, the stress, especially on the bride-to-be, is tremendous. It is the day when she hopes to look her most beautiful.

However, not every bride can afford a dream wedding, and many young women are forced to stick to simple and inexpensive wear. The Rainbow Free Bridal Boutique in Kodagu is taking these weddings up by a notch. Established by Shaharabanu (20), the Free Bridal Boutique is just weeks old, and operates from the rural part of Chettalli in Madikeri taluk.

Shaharabanu, who quit studies after completing PU examinations last year, is a YouTuber, and had also worked as a beautician for some time. The strong calling to do charity work has manifested itself in the form of this boutique.

"I always looked forward to doing charity work, but my family is not very well-to-do. Financial hurdles are many. However, a unique initiative has been started by one of my friends in Kerala, which led to the establishment of the Rainbow Free Bridal Boutique, a first of its kind in Karnataka," explained Shaharabanu.

So, what is so unique about this boutique? It provides free bridal dresses to brides from economically weaker sections of society.

"Weddings are very special to girls, and almost every girl dreams of wearing a special outfit on that day. However, many cannot afford these bridal outfits, and hence, I started a boutique to collect bridal clothes from women from rich families," she explained.

She laid out her plan on social media platforms and received positive feedback and support. Responding to her social media post, many women donated their wedding attire, like sarees which they had worn for their own nuptials, and fancy outfits from their trousseau.

The clothes were collected and dry cleaned. "I have collected many wedding clothes, some even from my family members. These clothes will be handed over to brides from weaker sections of society, including orphaned girls who are unable to afford wedding clothes," she said.

"Our generation is very active on social media and we often make new friends virtually. A WhatsApp group of like-minded girls who were on Instagram was created almost a year ago. In the group, one of the girls, who was poor, requested us to help her out for her wedding," recalls Shaharabanu.

However, she felt helpless with her family's meagre earnings, since her parents, Ameena and Maanu from Chettalli, are daily wage workers. Despite the impediments, the girls managed to collect funds and bought their friend a new bridal outfit, she added.

> It has been just 15 days since I started the boutique. There is no bar on religion or community of the brides. They can book the service and visit my place in Chettalli to select the dresses they want from what's available
>
> Shaharabanu

Following the incident, she realised that many girls face this challenge before their wedding, which the girls discussed in the group. That is when one of the girls from Kerala informed her about a boutique that donates bridal dresses to girls from poor families. "This boutique was started by a Kannur resident, Sabeeda, and I contacted her for support. Initially, when everyone was reluctant to donate their bridal wear to my boutique, Sabeeda helped me and brought many dresses all the way from Kannur to Chettalli," she recalled.

When dresses were donated to a couple of poor girls, residents from Madikeri and Virajpet came forward and donated their bridal outfits.

"My house is small. I had to make space to keep the dresses without damaging them. I bought a shelf for this purpose which is in my mother's room, where the dresses are kept neatly," she said.

"It has been just 15 days since I started the boutique. There is no bar on religion or community of the brides. They can book the service and visit my place in Chettalli to select the dresses they want from what's available. They can keep the outfits for themselves. This service is for those brides across the state who are battling economic hardship," she said.

To ensure that the dresses reach the needy, she asks the beneficiary to submit a letter from the religious committees concerned, about the family's financial situation. In just two weeks, more than 40 brides from across the state contacted the boutique, and Shaharabanu is working towards making their weddings special. "I ask the girls to visit my place 20 days prior to the wedding day. Their happy faces when they find the right bridal dress give me immense pleasure and satisfaction," she added.

Shaharabanu shows one of the many bridal outfits which is available at The Rainbow Free Bridal Boutique, opened just weeks ago | EXPRESS

> *There is no bar on religion or community of the brides. They can book the service and visit my place in Chettalli to select the dresses they want from the set of clothes available. This service is for those brides who are battling economic hardship*
>
> – Shaharabanu

The bridal collection at Shaharabanu's boutique which will be donated to brides from poor families | EXPRESS

Khelo India: BMTC to give athletes city tour

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

BMTC has introduced Special Bengaluru Darshini service for the benefit of sportspersons visiting the city to participate in Khelo India University Games-2021. The three Bengaluru Darshini buses from Kempegowda Bus Station, Jain College Campus (Kanakapura Road) and Art of Living campus are designed to exhibit the historical places of the city.

The fare for Bengaluru Darshini-1 is Rs 420. The itinerary is ISKCON temple, Vidhana Soudha, Gavigangadhareshwara Temple, Dodda Ganapathi Temple, Lalbagh, National Gallery of Modern Art, Sir M Visvesvaraya Museum and Cubbon Park. The fare for Bengaluru Darshini-2 is Rs 500. The itinerary is Gavigangadhareshwara Temple, Dodda Ganapathi temple, Lalbagh, ISKCON temple, Vidhana Soudha and Sir M Visvesvaraya Museum. Origin and termination is at Art of Living. Darshini-3 fare is Rs 600.

FARMERS NOT KEEN TO PART WITH LAND FOR KHB PROJECT

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

FARMERS holding agricultural land abutting Bannerghatta National Park (BNP) in Anekal have refused to part with their land to the Karnataka Housing Board, for the formation of Suryanagar Phase-4 project.

At the Janatha Bhoomi Adalat held on Saturday, the farmers said: "We prefer that our crops be raided by elephants rather than handing over land to the government." Muninanja Reddy, a farmer holding nine acres in Indlavadi in Aenkal, said they have been opposing it ever since. "The KHB is offering Rs 20 lakh compensation. The cash compensation will not help us buy land anywhere," he said. Forest officials said the areas marked for the project is elephant corridor, and it could lead to more conflict. A member of the jury, on condition of anonymity, said: "The government has already shrunk the eco-sensitive zone from 5km to 100 m to 1km. Now commercialising lands next to the ESZ without maintaining buffer zones will be a bigger mistake. The habitats in the buffer zone provide food and water and are vital. The area is frequented by wild boars, sloth bears, peafowl, elephants and smaller herbivores and carnivores." Around 100 farmers who are going to lose land in two phases (140 acres and 1,907 acres) presented their case before the jury, comprising noted environmentalist and High Court-appointed Lok Adalat consultant A N Yellappa Reddy, first Chairman of Karnataka Agricultural Prices Commission Dr Prakash Kammardi, Prof M K Ramesh of National Law School, noted farmer leader Sunanda Jayaram and activist Madhu Bhushan.

Easy maths paper, 96.6% appear for exam

SHILPA P @Bengaluru

AS many as 2,35,285 students appeared for the Mathematics and Education papers of second-year PU Board exams on Saturday. On the second day too, there were 8,125 absentees for both papers, and among 2,43,410 students who registered to take both exams, 96.6 per cent students were present. No exam malpractices were reported in the state, according to PU Board Director R Ramachandran.

Among 2,07,745 students (including 1,96,930 freshers and 5,592 repeaters) registered for the Mathematics exam, 2,02,522 students wrote the paper, while

5,223 students, including 3,313 freshers and 1,910 repeaters were absent.

Among 35,665 students (33,128 freshers, 443 private candidates and 2,094 repeaters) registered for the Education paper, 32,763 wrote the paper, while 2,902 students, including 2,269 freshers, 80 private candidates, 553 repeaters were absent. According to Milind Chippalakatti, head, knowledge management, Deeksha PU College, there were no out-of-syllabus questions. Compared to the 2019-20 paper, the Maths paper was very easy. "There is a change in pattern compared to the last exam, more choices were given in each part and this was announced by the Board well in advance. There were totally 66 questions, of which students were expected to answer 37 questions. Two questions were slightly difficult, otherwise the remaining questions were easily solvable. An average student can expect around 35-40 marks," he said.

What is the crime here, asks Udupi second PU student

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

BUT when the authorities at the centre did not allow them, citing a high court order, they returned home without writing the exam. The three science students had not taken the practical exams too in February. With these three science students skipping the exam, all the five hijab petitioners from Udupi have not appeared for second PU exams.

Aliya Assadi had tweeted after returning home on Friday: "Today, I and @Resham_Farooq were denied from appearing for exams wearing hijab. Again and Again we face disappointment! @RaghupathiBhat had threatened us with criminal cases against us if we go to attend exams tomorrow. What is the crime here? Where is our country headed to!" (sic).

Udupi MLA Raghupathi Bhat had said if other hijab petitioners also create the 'same scene' at the exam centre, it should be considered as 'creating nuisance' to disturb others and the police should book a criminal case. Bhat had said if the students repeat the 'nuisance', he will seek contempt of court proceedings against the students.

EXPRESS READ

Reconstruct the collapsed rajakaluve immediately: Gupta

Bengaluru: Following the collapse of a rajakaluve wall near Mysore Road, BBMP commissioner Gaurav Gupta visited the site and ordered its reconstruction within 45 days. Gupta had visited the site on Saturday following complaints of traffic jams affecting Mysore Road and Kengeri. Speaking during the inspection, he said that the construction must take place at a rapid speed . An official said that the reason for the collapse was rainwater entering the rajakaluve from Dubasipalya side through Mysore Road. In this regard, a total of 9.1 crore has been sanctioned.

DURATION OF PANDEMIC	CASES REPORTED	DEATHS	DISCHARGES
2 YEARS, 46 DAYS	■ 139 ◄ 90	■ 0 | ◄ 0	■ 55 | ◄ 45
	TALLY	POSITIVITY RATE	MORTALITY RATE
■ TODAY ◄ YESTERDAY	■ 39,46,874 ◄ 39,46,735	■ 5.99% | ◄ 5.99%	■ 1.01% | ◄ 1.01%
ACTIVE CASES	■ 1,679 ◄ 1,595	RECOVERY RATE ■ 98.94% ◄ 98.94%	

B'luru Urban: 135	Chamarajanagar: 0	Dharwad: 0	Kolara: 1	Shivamogga: 0
B'luru Rural: 1	Chikkaballapur: 0	Gadag: 0	Koppal: 0	Tumakuru: 0
Bagalkot: 0	Chikkamagaluru: 1	Hassan: 0	Mandya: 0	Udupi: 0
Ballari: 0	Chitradurga: 2	Haveri: 0	Mysuru: 0	U Kannada: 0
Belagavi: 1	D Kannada: 0	Kalaburagi: 0	Raichur: 0	Vijayapura: 0
Bidar: 0	Davanagere: 1	Kodagu: 0	Ramanagara: 1	Yadgir: 0

Advocate held in fake surrogacy racket case

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

THE South Division police have arrested an advocate who was reportedly acting as a mediator between IVF centres and the gang selling new born babies in connection with the fake surrogacy racket.

The case was registered in April, last year and the police have already arrested five accused and have rescued over 11 children. The kingpin of the racket Rathna had succumbed to Covid-19. The role of the advocate was to prepare agreements at IVF centres to those willing to get kids through surrogacy. With the arrest of the advocate, the total number of arrests has gone up to seven and the police have rescued 16 children. All the children have been handed over to their biological parents through the Child Welfare Committee.

The accused advocate KP Banumathi, 41 is a resident of Karnataka Layout in Kurubarahalli. He had filed a bail petition after the arrests of five accused but was denied bail. The other arrested accused are Devi Shanmuga, Ranjana Devi Prasad, Mahesh Kumar, Janardhan and Dhanalakshmi. The accused were selling children to childless couple claiming that they are born of surrogate mothers. The gang was charging Rs 2 to 3 lakhs per child. The gang used to visit hospitals and offered money to poor parents to sell their newborn babies.

"The advocate was convincing the childless couple that everything was legal. The childless couple were unaware of the plot. The police so far have got evidence in one case and suspect her role in many cases," Harish Pandey, DCP (South) told TNIE. The five accused were granted jail after almost nine months. The police suspect 28 children have been sold, of which 16 have been rescued.

GREEN ACTION

NGT asks KPCL to pay environmental damage penalty

Power corporation told to deposit Rs 10L with KSPCB

BOSKY KHANNA @Bengaluru

HEARING the matter pertaining to the fire that had occurred in the Yelahanka Gas Power Plant in October 2020, the National Green Tribunal on Friday pronounced that the Karnataka Power Corporation Limited (KPCL) has to pay environmental damages.

The Tribunal stated KPCL has to deposit Rs 10.1178 lakh with the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board within a month (starting from date of issue of the order -- April 22, 2022). In the fire, 15 people from KPCL, BHEL and General Electric Power Ltd had sustained burns. Of them, three had succumbed to their injuries.

The Tribunal had taken up a suo motu case based on an article published in TNIE dated October 3, 2010 – "Gas turbine explodes at power plant, 15 injured".

The NGT also noted, "The plant personnel gathered near the danger zone instead of safe assembly point leading to the human injuries and loss of lives. Lack of proper awareness and strict adherence to the safety protocol intensified the damage caused to human life. The fact that the gas turbine enclosure door, which was kept closed and latched during the operation of the unit, was opened due to manual interference caused the deflagration outside the enclosure leading to human injuries. This also affected the efficiency of the fire protection system by CO2 discharge and limiting oxygen supply for arresting the fire."

> **Plant personnel gathered near danger zone instead of safe assembly point leading to the injuries and loss of lives. Lack of proper awareness intensified damage to human life**
> NGT

Tribunal stated that the carbon dioxide emissions from the lube oil burning during the incident is estimated at 449.68 tonnes of CO2. "KPCL shall provide a thick green belt consisting of tall growing trees (preferably Miyawaki method) towards residential areas around the plant to arrest sound nuisance/ any hazard including providing permanent high range sprinklers towards residential areas all along the periphery of the plant. The concerned authorities such as urban development authority and town planning shall strictly ensure that sufficient buffer in the form of green belt is available while approving the plan for residential apartment/ layouts around already existing industries/units with probable accident hazard."

The root cause analysis committee comprising BHEL, GE and KPCL representatives in the December 28, 2020 report before NGT stated, "From the quantum of oil leak (close to 10,000 litres) only during the last run indicates that it was a high-volume, low-duration leak. This is possible only by a restriction in the drain line. Photographic evidence found points to this as the prime reason for the oil leak."

Initiative taken to merge e-courts with service centres: Justice Chandrachud

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

The e-Committee of Supreme Court has taken an initiative to merge the e-courts project/delivery of e-court services with the Common Service Centres (CSC) so that every village will be entitled for all the e-court services.

Supreme Court judge Justice DY Chandrachud, who is also the Chairperson, e-Committee of Supreme Court, said that merger of e-courts project/delivery of e-court services with CSC is one of the latest initiative.

Delivering his inaugural address at the 20th Biennial State Level Conference of Judicial Officers in city, he said that technology for us is not intended to reach out only to the high value commercial disputes or make the Indian judiciary responsible to the needs of investments and industry but to reach out to the door steps of the every citizen.

As a result of virtual performance of judiciary, the supreme court became truly a national participatory court. A young lawyer from across the country are able to address the Supreme Court. So technology not just changes the mode of adjudication but also transforms the adjudicatory process, he added.

He further said, "I must commend all the courts in Karnataka for demonstrating a progressive commitment to the e-court's initiative. Karnataka was one of the first states in the country to use the virtual forum to hear the regular cases. This is the huge step towards the state's target to ensure zero pendency of cases older than 5 years. The staggering figures and also the initiatives to use e-project services, including live telecast of proceedings, sets Karnataka pioneer in justice delivery system and I hope it will continue... These initiatives will bolster the image of Karnataka as litigants friendly and cosmopolitan state".

He said that the judicial academies should train the judicial officers on personality development, communication improvement, use digital technology like live streaming of of cases, leadership qualities, which helps the judge to conduct himself in a dignified manner and may also help in addressing trust deficit.

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai shares a light moment with Justice DY Chandrachud during the 20th Biennial State Level Judicial Officers Conference, in Bengaluru on Saturday | EXPRESS

No route change for Annamma Devi procession

DONNA EVA @Bengaluru

Prior to the Annamma Devi procession that took place on Saturday, Harish Pandey, Bengaluru South Deputy Commissioner of Police, said the procession has been conducted successfully for 35 years.

A letter written by Gulab Pasha, a social activist from Swaraj India, had gone viral, after he requested that the route of the procession be changed. "We heard that the procession is proposed to pass through Fayazabad and Kanaka Nagar, inhabited mostly by Muslim communities when it goes from Manju Layout to Shani Mahatma Temple," he said in the letter. Citing recent communal tensions as well as Ramzan evening prayers, he asked for the change in the route. He also alleged that the procession was being organised for the first time.

Refuting this, Pandey said the procession has taken place for the last 35 years, with a brief break the last two years due to Covid-19. "Members from both communities have also taken part in the procession regularly. The letter was sent by someone who had recently moved into the area and has a known history of making provocative statements, even recently with the CAA agitations," the DCP said.

POWER TO LEARNING

Ashwini Puneeth Rajkumar, wife of late actor Puneeth Rajkumar, distributes free notebooks to schoolchildren to mark the 94th birth anniversary of Dr Rajkumar at his residence in Sadashiva Nagar in Bengaluru on Saturday | SHRIRAM BN

Couple robbed of jewellery worth over Rs 6 lakh

PRAVEEN KUMAR @Bengaluru

A couple was robbed of gold ornaments worth Rs 6.16 lakh by two unidentified robbers on Bidadi-Ramanagar Road on Wednesday evening. The couple Shankar and Jayamma were returning home on a two-wheeler after visiting their daughter. Shankar, a second hand car dealer, Jayamma, a home maker were stopped by by the accused and threatened with a machete and knife. The woman was attacked when she refused to hand over her ornaments. When they threatened to kill her husband, she handed over the gold ornaments of 147 gm. The accused fled the scene.

Their daughter Vinutha said, "My parents had come to my house for a function. They have been robbed between 6.30 pm and 8.40 pm near a milk dairy. Luckily they have not been beaten."

An official said, "The couple filed the complaint in the night. The two accused are said to be around 30 years old. The accused have escaped with two gold chains, four gold bangles and three gold finger rings. Going by the statements of the couple, it appears that both the accused were drunk. We are going through the CCTV footage".

Rise in active cases as discharges fall

CONTINUED FROM PAGE3

HOWEVER, D Randeep, Commissioner, Health & Family Welfare Services, said the presence of BA 2.10 and BA 2.12 in the state is neither confirmed nor officially reported by the Indian SARS-CoV-2 Genomics Consortium (INSACOG).

While the number of fresh cases is rising rapidly, the number of discharges are falling, which is leading to a rapid rise in active cases.

However, there have been no deaths reported in Karnataka after April 9, and the toll has remained at 40,057 with the mortality rate at 1.01 per cent. Bengaluru has remained the sole powerhouse of infections lately. Of the 139 new cases, the state capital alone reported 132 — the remaining seven from Chitradurga (2) and Bengaluru Rural, Chikkamagaluru, Davanagere, Kolar and Ramanagara each reporting one case. Also, of the 1,679 active cases across Karnataka, Bengaluru alone has 1,601.

Health officials said this is also because of people in the densely-populated Bengaluru becoming complacent after mask-wearing since the Disaster Management Act was lifted from the Covid management protocol recently due to a decline in cases. Despite the rise in cases, Randeep said hospitalisations have not seen any increase and pointed to deaths being nil over the last two weeks. "The state is continuing with genomic surveillance in Bengaluru city to identify any new sub-lineages early," he added.

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SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice No.
COMML/MYS/25/2022 Date 20.04.2022
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites Tenders for the following work:
Item of work : Tender invited for selection of halt agent at Mariyal Gangavadi train halt station situated between Mysuru and Chamrajanagar section for a period of five years.
Last Date of Submission of bids:
Up to 15:00 hrs. on 27.05.2022
For details log on : www.swr.indianrailways.gov.in.
Senior Divisional Commercial Manager
Mysuru
PUB/30/AAAL/PR/SWR/2022-23
S.W.Railways SWRRLY SWRRLY

MAHILA CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD.
A.O. # 14, South End Road, Sheshadripuram, Bangalore - 560 020.
Phone: 23562229 / 23460051

SALE CUM AUCTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Whereas the Bank auction through its Authorized Officer **Mahila Co-operative Bank Ltd. Bangalore** In exercise of its powers under section 13(4) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARFAESI) has decided to put up for sale the schedule-1 part-A properties for realization of the schedule-1 part-B debts due to the Bank upon the following terms and conditions pursuant to default committed by the borrowers notice is hereby given under rule 8(6) of security interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 **that the sale of property described in scheduled-1part-A** shall be held by the Authorized officer as Per details set out here under.

Date of Sale	**11.05.2022**
Place of Sale	**Mahila Co-operative Bank Ltd. A.O. # 14, South End Road, Sheshadripuram, Bangalore - 560 020.**

Schedule-1, part-A

Sl No.	Name of the borrower / Co-borrower	Description of property	Reserve Price in Rupees	EMD in Rupees	Time of Sale
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1.	**Sri Manjunath M. S/o Sri B. Muniyappa (Borrower) residing at.** Present Corporation site No. 18, present PID No. 68-173-18, property No. 5, House List No. 89/5, Ex. V.P. Khatha No. 70, (24th Cross), 1st Cross, Muneshwara Layout, Ward No. 148, Eejipura, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, BBMP(68). **Guarantors: 1) Smt. Munilakshmi C. W/o Manunath M.** No. 51/1, 29th Cross, Next to Six Cone Apartment, Eejipura, Vivekanagar Post, Bangalore-560047. **2) Sri Siddeshwara M. S/o Basavaraja M. P.** No. 178, 3rd Cross, 5th Main Road, Vivekanagar, Further Extension, Bangalore-560047.	All that piece and parcel of immovable Present Corporation site No. 18, present PID No. 68-173-18, property No. 5, House List No. 89/5, Ex. V.P. Khatha No. 70, (24th Cross), 1st Cross, Muneshwara Layout, Ward No. 148, Eejipura, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, BBMP(68). **Measurement:** East-West: 35'0" Feets, North-South 60'0" Feets, **Bounded by: East:** Road, **West:** V. Muniswamy's property, **North:** Nanjundaiah's Property, **South:** Chinnappa's property.	**Rs.1,24,38,191/-**	**Rs. 12,43,820/-**	**11.30 AM**
2.	**Smt. Shobha (Borrower)** W/o Sri Y. Venkatesh Babu No. 14, Manjunatha Nilaya, Garden Road, West Layout, Nayandahalli, Bengaluru-560039. **Guarantors: 1) Sri Y. Venkatesh Babu,** S/o K V Ramamurthy, No. 14, Manjunatha Nilaya, Garden Road, West Layout, Nayandahalli, Bengaluru-560039. **2) Sri Manoj** S/o V. B. Nayak, No. 10/2, SVM Nilaya, Nrupathunga Road, Near Sujatha Tent, T.. Dasarahalli, Bengaluru - 560 057.	All that piece and parcel of immovable property being land with residential buliding bearing present Corporation No. 61/1A-14, PID No. 39-42-61/1A-14, House list No. 14, Old Khatha No. 61/1, New Khatha No. 61/1A, situtated at West Layout, Nayandahalli, Kengeri Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, BBMP Ward No. 39, Bengaluru, **Measuring:** East to West: 30'-0" feets and North to South: 40'-0" feets, having a total extent of 1200 Square feets and **bounded by: East by:** 3 Feet Passage and Property No. 58, **West by** : Property No. 13, **North by**: Road, **South by**: Property No. 16.	**Rs.88,00,000/-**	**Rs. 8,80,000/-**	**11.30 AM**
3.	**Sri M. Venkatesh (Borrower) Major** S/o V. Muniyappa, No. 938/49, 2nd Floor, 28th Main Road, Near Shekar Hospital, Jayanagar 9th Block, Bengaluru-560069. **Guarantors: 1) Roopa C.** W/o M. Venkatesh, No. 938, 3rd Floor, 28th Main, Jayanagar 9th Block, Bengaluru-560069. **2) Prabhu Shankar** S/o Channabasappa, No. 1565, 6th Cross, Govindarajanagar, Bengaluru-560079.	All that piece and parcel of immovable property baring land with residential buliding bearing Corporation No. 49, PID No. 64-126-49 (Old BDA No. 938). situated at 28th Main Road, 9th Block, Jayanagar, BBMP Ward No. 64, Bengaluru- **Measuring:** East to West: 55 feets and North to South: 30 feets, having a total extent of 1650 Square feets and **bounded by: East by**: Road, **West by** : Site No. 961, **North by:** Site No. 937, **South by:** Site No. 939.	**Rs.2,98,30,000/-**	**Rs. 29,83,000/-**	**12.00 PM**

Schedule-1, part-B

Name of the Borrower / Co-borrowers	Nature of Facility	Total dues
1) Sri Manjunath M.	**Mortgage**	**Rs.1,29,63,389/- Plus further Interest and cost from 01.03.2022**
2) Smt. Shobha	**Mortgage**	**Rs.88,00,000/- Plus further Interest and cost from 01.03.2022**
3) Sri M. Venkatesh (Borrower) Major	**Mortgage**	**Rs.2,98,30,000/- Plus further Interest and cost from 01.03.2022**

***Amount already paid if any will be adjusted from total dues.**
In the event of Schedule- 1part-B debts and the costs of sale being tendered by the borrower on or before **10.05.2022** Before **4.00 PM** the Authorized Officer would stop the sale. No communication or offers would be entertained from the borrower once the sale in complete.
In the event of sale proceeds of schedule- 1part-A. properties is not sufficient to satisfy the Schedule -1 part- B debts then the Bank would take resources to the remedies available under law for recovery of balance amount.
Conditions of Sale:
1.Sale is being held on as is where is basis, what ever there and without recourse basis and the Bank is not responsible for title condition Or any other fact affecting the property.
2. The particulars specified in schedule-1 part-B have been stated to the best of information of the Bank and will not be answerable for any error misstatement or omission.
3.For the reasons recorded it shall be discretion of the Authorized officer to cancel / postpone the sale for any reason and return The bids Submitted and Bank would not entertain any claim or representation in that regard from the bidders.
4.The person declared to be the purchaser shall pay forth with on receipt of such declaration a deposit of 10% of sale price and Remaining Amount shall be paid with in 15 days from the date of conformation of sale by the Bank in the event of default said payment within the above Period the entire amount including EMD deposited by the person declared to be the purchaser shall be forfeited and the property shall be Resold and defaulting purchaser shall forfeit all the claims on the property and the amount.
5.On issuance of Sale Certificate by the Bank sale shall be complete and no claims shall be entertained by the Bank.
6. Nothing in this notice constitutes of will deemed to constitute any commitment or representation on the part of the Bank to sell the Property Bank reserves the right to cancel / postpone the sale for any reason it may deem fit or even without assigning any reason and Such cancellation shall not be called in question by the bidders.
7.The bank reserves the right to accept, reject any or all bids at any stage and vary modify and waive any condition of sale in its absolute Discretion.
8.Statutory dues like property taxes/cess and / or Builder / Society / Association / Apartment development charges/ dues, contribution to society funds, transfer charges, arrears of electricity dues, arrears of water charges etc. should be ascertained by the Bidder(s) /Offerer(s) /prospective purchaser(s) beforehand and the same should be paid by the purchaser prior to execution of the sale Certificate. The stamp duty, registration charges/fees as applicable in respect of the sale certificate to be executed and all expenses incidental to the sale shall be borne by the purchaser alone.
9.The Authorized Officer Auctions this property on as is where is basis and any issues / disputes shall not be entertained by the Authorized Officer after conclusion of auction proceedings. The successful bidder shall make his / her own arrangements to take the auctioned property In vacant /actual possession and no claims /demand is maintainable before the Authorized Officer by the successful bidder on conclusion of Auction proceedings.
Subject to the conditions of Sale Above sealed tenders are invited from the interested persons willing to purchase the Schedule-1 part-B Properties.
* Sealed tenders must reach the Authorized Officer at the address mentioned above on or before **4.00 PM 10.05.2022** along with Demand Draft towards the earnest Money Deposit (EMD) for the property and with the bid from duly completed. Bid form be collected From the **Mahila Co-operative Bank Ltd.. Bangalore** Above address. The Demand Draft /pay Order shall be drawn on **Mahila Co-operative Bank Ltd.. Bangalore** Payable at **Bangalore**. Cheques will not be accepted or EMD any bid accompanied by a cheque Is liable to be disqualified. The bids will be opened on **11.05.2022 by 10.30 AM** in presence of the Authorised officer & bidders present at **Bank Premises, Mahila Co-operative Bank Ltd., Bangalore .**
* Bid shall be unconditional and bids with conditions are liable to be reject.
* Incase highest bid being two or more and contain the same offer price. Authorized Officer may at his discretion arrange for open bidding interest the bidders, who have offered the same price
* In that event the amount at biddings is to be increased or the method of bidding shall be as decided by the Authorised Officer.
* Brokers / Middleman shall not to be entertained.
* Only bidder will be participate in public auction.
* The Sale Notice has been issued on **23.04.2022** To the borrowers.
For inspection of the properties and for details the interested person contact. Mohan Gangadhar - Mobile: 8549009966.

Place: Bangalore
Date: 23.04.2022

Authorised Officer
Mahila Co-Operative Bank Ltd., Bangalore

I'LL COME OUT CLEAN IN PATIL CASE: KSE Former minister and MLA KS Eshwarappa reiterated that he would emerge clean in the Santosh Patil suicide case. He reiterated that he is ready to face the consequences even if he had committed an iota of mistake. Talking to media persons on Saturday, he said investigation into the case is underway and all angles will be looked into.

GOVT MUST TRANSFER ADGP FOR RECRUITMENT SCAM: PRIYANK

KPCC spokesperson demands resignation of Home Minister on moral grounds

ENS @ Kalaburagi

THE Congress Party has asked the government to either transfer Additional Director General of Police (Recruitment) or send him on leave till the completion of the inquiry of PSI CET scam by CID.

Speaking at a Press conference here on Saturday, KPCC spokesperson Priyank Kharge, who is also a former minister and MLA of Chittapur constituency, said, "The PSI CET exams were held on October 3 under the supervision of the present ADGP, and the government should not give any scope for allegations that the ADGP will protect the accused."

Let the government give the same post of ADGP (Recruitment) after the completion of the inquiry, Kharge suggested. He also asked the Home Minister Araga Jnanedra to resign from the post on moral grounds owing responsibility for the PSI recruitment scam.

Kharge expressed his surprise as Divya Hagaragi, who is the secretary of Jnana Ganga English Medium School, is yet to be arrested where the manipulation and malpractice of PSI CET allegedly took place. When Hagaragi has applied for anticipatory bail, it is a common understanding that the government knows her whereabouts, he said.

Kharge further said that it has come to light that Kalaburagi DDPI had written a letter prior to October recommending that Jnana Ganga English Medium School should not be considered as an exam centre for PSI CET. The government should tell the people on whose recommendations Jnana Ganga institution was selected as the centre, he added.

Kharge releases audio clip

During the Press conference, Priyank Kharge played an audio clip of a purported conversation between a candidate who was selected for the PSI post and a middleman.

In the clip, the middleman was heard asking the candidate to send the application number before the CET so that he could be allotted to a centre where committing exam malpractice would be convenient. It was heard that everything has been settled and they should be assured of selection in the CET as almost all the people are involved in the process. It was heard in the audio that dealing has also taken place with regard to the PSI CET to fill up 402 posts of PSIs.

When asked about the arrest of Afzalpur Block Congress president by CID in this connection, Kharge said if CID finds his involvement, let them question him also.

PSI CET exams were held under the present ADGP's supervision, and the government should not give scope for allegations that ADGP will protect the accused

- Priyank Kharge, KPCC spokesman

Congress leader's tape will be probed, says CM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

CHIEF Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Saturday said the audio tape related to the PSI recruitment scam will be probed, and those found guilty will not be spared. He also said that irregularities in the recruitment of PSIs, irrespective of batch, will be investigated.

Responding to Congress MLA Priyank Kharge releasing an audio tape related to the PSI scam, Bommai told reporters that investigation is on, and the authorities would consider any material related to the case. The audio tape contains a conversation between two people. "Who are they? What is their credibility? The audio too will be subjected to a probe. The guilty will be punished," he added.

Later in the day, Home Minister Araga Jnanendra said CID police are investigating the PSI scam. "Police arrested a Congress leader said to be close to Priyank Kharge, who reportedly got this audio tape one month ago, but released it on Saturday," he said. "Kharge convened a press meet but did not mention the audio tape. Now that his close aide has been arrested, he has shared details of the audio tape."

Kharge's Twitter handle inactive

Kharge, who has been making allegations on the PSI recruitment scam, said his Twitter handle has been made inactive. In a press statement, he said he was unable to post anything. "I don't know if this has been done by Twitter or some miscreants have hacked my account. If there are any irrelevant posts from my handle, they are not from me," he clarified.

Email threat source will be traced: CM

Asked about an email threat received by various schools in Bengaluru last fortnight, said to be from Pakistan and Syria, Bommai said he has no idea about it. "I will speak to the Police Commissioner. Such efforts are being made frequently to disturb peace," he said. He also said the email source would be traced.

PSI SCAM: CID ARRESTS CONGRESS LEADER'S BROTHER

Kalaburagi: CID sleuths on Saturday arrested RD Patil near Solapur, in Maharashtra, in connection with the PSI recruitment scam, sources said. During interrogation, Hayyala Desai, the gunman of Afzalpur MLA MY Patil, allegedly confessed before the CID that he had hidden a bluetooth device in the collar of his shirt, and experts guided him on the right answers via mobile from an unidentified place. Desai reportedly told the CID that all the arrangements were made by Afzalpur Block Congress president Mahantesh Patil and his younger brother RD Patil, and he had paid the amount demanded by them. Mahantesh was arrested while attending a function in Afzalpur on Friday. It is said that he resisted his arrest and spoke rudely to CID officials. Patil's house was searched on Friday night and he was produced before court on Saturday. He was remanded in police custody for one week. KPCC spokesperson Priyank Kharge on Saturday told reporters that he would not deny that Mahantesh is a Congress leader, unlike BJP spokesperson Rajkumar Patil who claimed that prime accused and Jnana Ganga English Medium School secretary Divya Hagaragi was not a BJP leader. Mahantesh has resigned from his post, Kharge said. - **Ramkrishna Badseshi**

SUNDAY INTERVIEW

'Varsity Games will take sports to greater heights'

ASHIM SUNAM @ Bengaluru

Karnataka's Minister of Youth Empowerment and Sports **KC Narayana Gowda** is a busy man. With the second edition of the Khelo India University Games (KIUG) beginning in Bengaluru on Sunday, he has been on his toes, overseeing the preparations. After a brief lunch at the Karnataka Olympic Bhavan near Sree Kanteerava Indoor Stadium, which is set to host the opening ceremony, he spoke to The New Sunday Express on the go. He touched upon various points, including the pride in Karnataka in hosting the university games, the Covid protocols to be followed and plans to promote sports in the state. Excerpts:

All eyes are on Karnataka as it gets ready to host KIUG...
After the first edition in Odisha, the second is being held in the state. (Prime Minister Narendra) Modi has a big dream of making India a great sports nation. In Karnataka, we have got this great chance to host KIUG, and we will ensure that this edition of the Games is held successfully that will help take the sports to greater heights. People here in the sports ministry have put in a lot of effort to conduct the event smoothly. It is great that we have such good facilities at Jain University and Sree Kanteerava Stadium among other venues, which have enabled us to host the event.

Covid cases are on the rise in the country. What Covid protocols will be followed at KIUG?
All necessary steps have been taken with regards to Covid protocols. It is important that all students (athletes) and officials coming to Bengaluru for the event are double vaccinated, and that is being checked. During the course of the event, if someone is found to be a Covid suspect, he/she will be put under proper quarantine and treated. All the venues across the city will have doctors available.

In Karnataka, we have got this great chance to host KIUG, and we will ensure that this edition is held successfully that will help take the sports to greater heights

KC Narayana Gowda, Minister of Youth Empowerment and Sports

Two indigenous games have been introduced, Yogasana and Mallakhamb. What is the objective?
If you look all around the world, not only India, Yogasana is popular. There is fitness involved and it is good to have such disciplines at KIUG here. With Mallakhamb, it is not easy to compete in. A lot of strength is involved in the sport, and it is great for fitness as well.

Can you talk about plans to promote sports in state?
The Karnataka government is serious about such initiatives to promote sports. We are starting a sports university near the airport. We have a sports programme, where the state is encouraging 75 sportspersons in various disciplines, including swimming, tennis and badminton. Importantly, the government provides financial support, and sportspersons can train with any coach or even go abroad, if required. The aim is to see several athletes from the state competing at the 2024 Paris Olympics.

How about encouraging youngsters at different age levels?
When it comes to sports, youngsters need to be trained and allowed to compete at different age levels. The government will support the U14 and U16 mini-state Olympics. These are some of the initiatives that will gradually help in overall growth of athletes.

GLORIOUS 75 YEARS

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai inaugurates Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav at Panchamashali Peetha in Harihara on Saturday

CABINET REJIG

Jarkiholi rushes to CM ahead of Delhi trip

ENS @ Bengaluru

CHIEF Minister Basavaraj Bommai said the BJP central leadership will take a decision on whether to Cabinet will be reshuffled or the vacanies will be filled up. He said the list will be made known after getting a word from the BJP high command.

Meanwhile, amidst a strong buzz over Cabinet expansion and as the scheduled day for CM's Delhi visit draws nearer, former minister **Ramesh Jarkiholi**, who was dropped following allegations against him, rushed to meet the CM on Saturday. He is one of the many who not only sought to meet the CM but also party president Nalin Kateel to ensure a berth for himself in the ministry. Some insiders said that CM Bommai will fill up the five existing vacancies after a nod from the central leadership when he is expected to meet them in Delhi on April 30.

At least eight ministers are likely to be inducted, sources said, because a few from the ministry are expected to be roped in for party work.

This could well be the last reshuffle of the Cabinet considering there is about only 10 months before elections are notified.

Ashoka raises bulldozers for rioters, hopes to kick up row

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

AFTER the controversy over using bulldozers to raze buildings of rioters in Uttar Pradesh and Delhi, Revenue Minister R Ashoka Saturday said he will speak to Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai and other cabinet colleagues to use bulldozers in Karnataka to deal with rioters and anti-social elements.

BJP state president and Dakshina Kannada MP Nalin Kumar Kateel said the state government too should consider taking similar action against rioters. "In Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh, steps are being taken to control riots irrespective of caste and creed. To cause riots, set fire to government properties, demoralise the police and take away the morale of society tantamounts to terrorism. The government must take bold and firm action against such rioters. This is the party's stand," he added.

"Those involved in the PSI recruitment scam are being arrested, irrespective of their party affiliations," he said. Asked about the opposition Congress' demand for the resignation of Home Minister Araga Jnanendra, he sarcastically said if Congress Legislature Party leader Siddaramaiah and senior leader Rahul Gandhi leave Congress, it will be good for that party.

On using bulldozers in the state, Jnanendra said in Udupi that the earthmovers were used in Uttar Pradesh to deal with criminal elements and if it becomes inevitable, the state government too may resort to similar action. Kateel said BJP is working to win 150 seats in Karnataka in the 2023 Assembly elections by showcasing the achievements of the state and central governments. "Our party leaders are going on tours across the state in three batches to strengthen the party organisation. We are working hard to make our organisation all-encompassing," he added.

Congress indulging in appeasement politics: Joshi

Dharwad: Union Minister Pralhad Joshi, referring to violence in Hubballi over a Whatsapp message last week, on Saturday alleged that the opposition Congress is resorting to appeasement politics to stay relevant in the state.Because of such tactics, Congress has been reduced to a few states in the country. In the recently concluded Assembly polls in Uttar Pradesh, it lost deposits in 387 seats out of 399 after governing the state for four decades. The party's plight continued in Uttarakhand and Manipur and it was routed in Goa, he added. Reacting to Opposition leader Siddaramaiah's accusation that BJP incited violence in Hubballi, he said that both Siddaramaiah and KPCC president D K Shivakumar are in an internal battle to grab the chief minister's chair. "They seem to believe that whoever appeases minorities more could become chief minister," he ridiculed. He said a section of the media reported that some of the accused in Hubballi violence have Bangladesh links. These issues should be considered during the investigation, he added.

Cong target is 150 seats for Assembly polls, says Siddu

ENS @ Harihar

LEADER of Opposition in State Assembly and former chief minister Siddaramaiah on Saturday said that Congress has also fixed a target of winning 150 seats in the 2023 Assembly elections and the party was moving on the right track to achieve it.

Addressing the media persons in the city, he said the party high command asked them to win 150 seats in the next assembly polls as was done by the BJP high command.

"Keeping this in mind, we have requested the party leadership to announce candidates well in advance and six months before the polls."

Siddaramaiah also alleged that BJP was behind the Hubballi violence and claimed that Abhishek Hiremath instigated the violence. Slamming Sri Rama Sene, he said the government must demolish Sri Rama Sene using bulldozers as it was harming communalharmony in Karnataka. Describing the JDS as the 'B' team of BJP. Responding to a question on the constituency from where he was contesting, he said that it will be finalised when the elections approach. He hit out at the government for not increasing the budget for SC/ST community.

'New outfit can end corruption'

ENS @ Chikkamagaluru

EVEN as the Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's Aam Aadmi Party is trying make their political space in Karnataka, the Karnataka Rajya Raitha Sangha (KRRS) leaders have joined hands with the party, if Kejriwal's remark recently in Bengaluru stating that AAP will contest 2023 Assembly elections in Karnataka with KRRS and Green Brigade is any indication. State KRRS leader KK Krishne Gowda agreed that it will be possible to eradicate corruption and rein in corrupt netas if a new political outfit is floated in the state. "As long as votes are sold for money and liquor, we will remain slaves of peoples' representatives," he said.

EXPRESS READ

Inquiry gives clean chit to milk societies

Bengaluru: Following Congress allegations of recruitment scam, the departmental inquiry into the Bangalore Urban, Rural and Ramanagara District Co-Operative Milk Producers Societies Union Limited (BUMUL) recruitment has revealed there are no irregularities.

The politics of iftar, and getting the right message across

BANSY KALAPPA @ Bengaluru

WITH the festival of Ramzan just over a week away, Congress and JDS leaders are holding iftar parties, de rigueur for political parties in the season of fasting. While Congress leader Siddaramaiah held an iftar for his supporters, KPCC president D K Shivakumar is hosting one on Wednesday. JDS leaders HD Deve Gowda, HD Kumaraswamy and others, too, held iftar meetings a few days ago in Bengaluru, along with party MLC B M Farooq.

The importance of the iftar party has been acknowledged by most parties -- it is held to reassure the electorate of one's secular credentials, and is ideal for political messaging. Especially so now, say leaders, when the social atmosphere has been vitiated by communal issues.

As expected, the Congress iftar parties were not spared from right-wing mockery, with BJP members scoffing at Siddaramaiah and others on social media. "Topi hegide nodi," was a comment on Siddaramaiah's Kashmiri Karakul cap on the iftar poster. To which Siddaramaiah said, "Our nation becomes strong when all of us unite, regardless of caste and community. No one should find fault with iftar parties, every one participates in a spirit of brotherhood." While the right-wing fringe has raised the narrative to a shrill pitch with the row over hijab and halal meat, presence of Muslim traders in temple premises, and attack on businesses, political analyst Siddaraju recalls that the BJP itself used to once organise Iftar meetings. Insiders recall that then CM BS Yediyurappa used to participate in Iftars.

When contacted, a senior leader from the BJP's Minority Morcha said, off the record, "We too from BJP will be holding a meeting, but after fasting is over, either on the day of Eid or the next day."

He also clarified that the BJP Karnataka unit had routinely held iftar meetings in the past few years.

The RSS, too, has organized Iftars across the nation through the Muslim Rashtriya Manch, to bring Muslims close to Hindus.

Union health ministry has given nod for setting up an All India Institute of Medical Sciences in Kerala and it has forwarded the file to the Union finance ministry. This was informed by Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare, Dr Bharati Pravin Pawar, in writing to K Muraleedharan, MP

KYASANUR FOREST DISEASE: RISE AND SPREAD OF SIX-DECADE-OLD MENACE

Complacency in re-administration causes rise, as vaccine immunity lasts a year; 2022 to see peak, says scientist

WHAT IS KFD?

KFD is a zoonotic viral disease identified more than six decades ago. It is transmitted to human beings by the bite of infected ticks. As it was first detected near Kyasanur forest area in Shivamogga district, the disease was named Kyasanur Forest Disease or monkey fever. It is not contagious from human to human, as with Covid-19.

SYMPTOMS

High fever, headaches, prostration, nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea and occasionally neurological haemorrhagic manifestation

SEEN IN

Shivamogga, Sagar and spread to adjoining areas in Chikkamagaluru, Udupi, Uttara Kannada, Dakshina Kannada and now spreading beyond the Western Ghats to Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Goa, Maharashtra and appears to be turning into an epidemic.

CHETANA BELAGERE @Bengaluru

KYASANUR Forest Disease (KFD), aka Monkey Fever, a zoonotic viral disease transmitted to human beings through the bite of infected ticks, this year may see its peak in numbers as scientists predict that every three years the virus reaches its peak (parabolic wave). The last time it peaked was in 2019, with a maximum of 23 deaths and 343 cases in Shivamogga alone.

Dr Ranganath S, Scientist, Institute of Animal Health and Veterinary Biologicals, told The New Sunday Express, "This disease is directly related to the vaccination and immune status. Vaccines are given in one year and immunity lasts till the next year, and there would be a vaccine associated dip in cases. This makes people complacent and they don't take the vaccine the following year, and cases peak during the third year."

SPREAD TO OTHER STATES

This six-decade-old disease has remained endemic due to various factors, mainly, man-animal interface. However, this indigenous disease was first highlighted in the Kyasanur forest range (hence the name) of Soraba taluk in Shivamogga district, and was confined to this zone.

Later, it spread to Sagar and Hosanagar in the district, and is still active in these places. It then spread to Chikkamagaluru, Karwar and lately, Mysuru. In the past four years, it has spread to the neighbouring states of Goa, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu.

People, most often villagers, have close contact with nearby forest areas. Often, their houses are located inside forest areas, so human interaction with the forest ecosystem paves the way for monkey tick bites, resulting in the KFD.

The causal agent of this disease is from the virus family Flaviviridae, which is a member of the tick-borne encephalitis (TBE) complex. Haemaphysalis spinigera is the principal vector which settles on small rodents, monkeys and birds, which play a role in KFD transmission.

"It is no more limited to these areas. Even in cities like Bengaluru, when monkey deaths occur, a postmortem is done to. check for KFD. However, it is rare in such cities as the interface with ticks is less, and also immunity levels are high," says Dr Ranganath.

DEATH OF MONKEYS RINGS ALARM BELLS

The death of monkeys sends warning signals to health department officials, who then categorise the areas as high-risk, moderate and low-risk. The ticks bite the monkeys, leaving them dead.

Dr Rajesh Suragihalli, District Health and Family Welfare Officer, Shivamogga, explains: "If monkey deaths are noted, health officials plunge into activities like sprinkling of Melathene powder in and around a 60- metre area and begin surveillance for early detection."

He says outbreaks are normally in summer, as villagers visit nearby forest areas to collect firewood and dry leaves to save for the rainy season, and also let cattle into forests for grazing. "With this, the ticks enter the backyards of households, resulting in KFD," he says.

Usually, these ticks vanish with rain in the forests. So, with the onset of rain in May, the KFD infection lowers significantly.

COMMITTEE INPUTS NEED IMPLEMENTATION

In March 2019 , when the outbreak was severe with cases spreading from Karnataka to other states, the government formed a committee led by former Additional Chief Secretary M Madan Gopal and former Dean of Mandya Institute of Medical Sciences Dr Shivakumar Veeraiah, to enquire about gaps in efficient control of the outbreak, contain the spread and proper management of KFD patients, which needs to be properly implemented.

However, although there are some efforts to follow recommendations and ensure the KFD cases are contained, experts feel the state reacts only when cases rise.

VACCINES ARE THE KEY

Health officials are expected to provide booster vaccines to villagers every year, between December and March. Annual rounds of vaccination using formalin inactivated tissue-culture vaccines have been conducted in the affected regions since 1990. The production of vaccines for the entire country happens in a lab in Bengaluru.

Dr Chandranaik, scientist in charge of KFD vaccination at the Institute of Animal Health and Veterinary Biologicals, says, "On an average, five lakh doses are produced every year and vaccines have a shelf life of one year from the date of production. It is from this lab that it goes to the health department and they dispose of it based on requests from other states."

Though availability is not a concern any more, vaccinating people has been a challenge. Since the disease spreads among the labour class and the vaccine is painful with at least a day or two of fever, most of them don't volunteer for vaccination as their livelihoods are lost if they don't go for work, a health official says. He says the government needs to compensate the families for two days after vaccination to encourage them.

ALL IN CONTROL, SAY OFFICIALS

Health officials say cases are coming down in Sagar, Thirthahalli and other taluks due to the collective efforts of the health, forest and animal husbandry departments, and establishment of 'fodder banks' in the affected areas, preventing villagers from entering forest areas. However, they have not been able to contain the disease spread to other cities, districts and neighbouring states.

(With Subhashchandra NS & Ramachandra Gunari)

CASES, DEATHS IN LAST FOUR YEARS IN SHIVAMOGGA DIST

2019	Cases 343	Deaths 23
2020	Cases 181	Deaths 04
2021	Cases 26	Deaths 0
2022	Cases 27	Deaths 0

HISTORY OF KFD

Scientists and public health experts working in the affected regions say in March 1957, there was an outbreak of Yellow Fever-like disease in Kyasanur forest in Shivamogga district. Renowned field entomologist Rajagopalan PK was called to investigate it.

The KFD virus Flaviviridae was isolated from a sick monkey and the viral samples of the insect collectors in the team were sent to Rockefeller Laboratory in New York, which confirmed that the virus was related to the one causing Omsk Hemorrhagic fever earlier found in Siberia, Russia, the reason being tick bites.

HOW DOES IT SPREAD?

During this time, construction of Linganamakki dam over the Sharavathi river displaced nearly 22,698 families and submerged a lot of prime forest land. Ticks then moved from wild animals to cattle, as the displaced people were rehabilitated in other parts of Shivamogga. Landscape changes or replacing evergreen forests with plantations, are key to KFD spreading.

Chief Justice of India NV Ramana with Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK stalin during the foundation stone laying ceremony of an administrative block for Madras High court in Chennai on Saturday | EXPRESS

CJI: Tech can cross language barrier

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Chennai

CHIEF Justice of India (CJI) NV Ramana on Saturday said there are "some barriers" in allowing courts to use local languages, and these would hopefully be solved soon through technology. He was responding to Chief Minister MK Stalin's appeal to allow the use of Tamil in the Madras High Court. He also addressed Stalin's other requests, including that the principles of social justice and inclusiveness be followed in appointment of judges to higher courts, and that a bench of the Supreme Court be set up in Chennai.

The CJI was speaking in Chennai, where he laid the foundation stone for a nine-storey administrative block of the Madras High Court, and inaugurated combined court buildings in Kallakurichi and Namakkal districts. The CM inaugurated the commercial court complex in Egmore.

In his address, CJI Ramana said Tamilians take great pride in their language, food, and culture. "They are at the forefront of protecting cultural and linguistic rights in the country. Even today when we think about the linguistic diversity of India, the battle fought by Tamilians comes to mind." he said.

"From time to time, there have been demands to use local languages in proceedings before high courts as provided under Article 348 of the Constitution. There are some barriers which have prevented this. I hope with the advent of technology, and artificial intelligence, some of the issues related to introduction of languages in high courts may be served in the near future," he added.

Man killed in e-scooter fire

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Vijayawada

A 40-year-old man was killed and three others -- his wife and two daughters -- received severe burn injuries when the battery of an electric scooter blew up while it was being charged in his rented accommodation at Gulabi Thota under Suryaraopet police limits in Vijayawada early on Saturday.

Identifying the deceased as DTP designer Kotakonda Siva Kumar, circle inspector K Janaki Ramayya said the tragedy struck the family a day after they had purchased the Boom Corbett 14 electric scooter.

Kumar had removed the battery and plugged it indoors to recharge since the house lacked a socket outside. Around 3.30 am, the battery exploded, sparking a blaze.

"This was Siva Kumar's second electric scooter. He used to charge the scooter battery inside his house. As a result of the explosion, the living room caught fire, and smoke quickly engulfed the house," inspector Ramayya said.

Following the explosion, the family rushed into the kitchen to escape the blaze. "The house lacked proper ventilation, and the thick smoke had no escape routes," the officer said. All of them suffered burns and were asphyxiated. Ramayya added that Siva Kumar died while being shifted to a hospital.

Privileged to contribute to S&T ecosystem, says new scientific adviser Sood

BALA CHAUHAN @Bengaluru

IN 2003, when Prof Ajay Kumar Sood and his team at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, created history when they generated electricity by passing liquid or gas through carbon nanotubes, Sood did not imagine that he may one day become the Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA) to the government. "Posts, appointments, awards and accolades are milestones, and not targets in a scientist's life. We don't work for anything other than science itself," Sood told TNSE in an exclusive interview after his appointment as the PSA.

Regarding his new role as the country's top scientist, he said he was "humbled" and felt privileged to get this opportunity to contribute to the science and technology ecosystem. "I look forward to accelerating the scientific temperament, and making India one of the top three countries in science and technology. We have the best brains and potential to be on top," said the distinguished physicist and Padma Shri awardee.

"We have seen the speed of progress in the management of Covid-19 pandemic and vaccine development. There were decades of medical research and basic science behind it," the renowned scientist said.

Talking about the road map to increased scientific temperament and advancement, Sood said India has pockets of scientific excellence, which need to be expanded. "There should be many more such centres and greater synergy between academia and industry. We must motivate students and researchers to come out with scientific breakthroughs. We should see more research papers by Indian scientists getting published in international journals of repute. We need to bolster systems that would promote basic science to transactional science," said the new PSA, who will assume charge on April 25.

EXPRESS READ

Bees kill ex-Coffee Board chief

Chikkamagaluru: Former Coffee Board chairman M S Bhoje Gowda died after he was stung by honey bees at his coffee estate Krishnagiri on Saturday. M S Bhoje Gowda visited the Krishangiri estate near Arisinaguppe on the slope of Mullayyanagiri hill range and went to supervise the coffee plants. Taking him by surprise, a large number of honey bees came flying and stung him. He was shifted to Ashraya hospital in the city and was declared dead by the doctors. He was the first to occupy the position being a coffee planter.

Gang held for forging bail papers

Bengaluru : A gang of nine including a woman was busted for creating fake documents to submit to get court bail. The City Market police detained the accused when they were on their way to the court. They seized the fake seals and stamps. A police officer said that an inquiry revealed that the accused were preparing fake land records to get an habitual offender out on bail. The police caught them during a random checking on JC Road and seized a bag with several sets of land records.

Gang stabs, robs auto driver

Bengaluru: A gang stabbed an autorickshaw driver and robbed gold and valuables worth `1.3 lakh near Tumakuru-Bengaluru highway on Friday night. A police officer said that the victim Rajanna (37), a resident of Nelamangala town who is undergoing treatment alleged that as he was returning home after dropping a passenger in Peenya. A gang followed his auto on two bikes, stopped him and threatened him with a knife. As he tried to raise an alarm, they stabbed him repeatedly and robbed him.

Sahitya Sammelana from Sept 23 in Haveri

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

THE 86th Kannada Sahitya Sammelana will be held for three days from September 23 to 25 at Haveri, said Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai here on Saturday.

Haveri being his hometown, Bommai has taken a special interest in the event. He urged the organisers to make the literary meet green by using environmentally-friendly flexes. Local people should be involved in the event, he said, and exhorted volunteers from each taluk in Haveri district to take part.

Bommai directed officials to make use of hotels, hostels, residential schools, community halls, marriage halls and other places to accommodate delegates and visitors. Guests can also be put up in Hubballi and Davanagere, he suggested. Tent houses similar to those used at Kumbh Melas in Uttar Pradesh can also be considered, and a blueprint should be drawn up. Rs 20 crore was allocated in the state budget for the Sammelana, he added.

Saturday's meeting was attended by Jnanpith awardee Chandrashekar Kambar, Kannada and Culture Minister Sunil Kumar, Ministers Shivaram Hebbar and BC Patil, President to Kannada Sahithya Parishath Mahesh Joshi.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
Electrical General Services
Madurai Division
TENDER NOTICE
No: U-E-OT-2022-02
Dated 22.04.2022
Divisional Electrical Engineer, General Services, Southern Railway, Madurai-625016 invites E-Tenders from reputed contractors for the under mentioned work.
Tender No & Name of the Work: U-E-OT-2022-02-01: Comprehensive Annual Maintenance contract of various makes of RMPU AC Packaged units in LHB & Conventional AC Coaches based at Madurai Division for the period of three years
App.Tender Value(₹): **4,86,05,486**
Earnest Money Value (₹): **3,93,000**
Cost of Tender Form (₹): **11,200**
Contract Period: **36 Months**
E-Tender Closing Date & Time: **16.05.2022 & 14.30 Hours**
For further details log on **www.ireps.gov.in**
Divisional Electrical Engineer / General, Southern Railway, Madurai – 625 016
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TAMIL NADU WATER SUPPLY AND DRAINAGE BOARD
Chief Engineer Office, TWAD Board,
30, Bharathi Park Road, Siruvani Nagar, Coimbatore - 641 043.
ADDENDUM / CORRIGENDUM
E- Submission - Extension of Tender Notice
No. 16-1 / F.CWSS to Rasipuram Package -1 & 2 / DO(T2) / CE / CBE / 2022 / Dated.22.04.2022.
Name of Work : Combined Water Supply Scheme to Rasipuram Municipality, 8 Town Panchayats and certain other rural habitations in Namakkal District **(Construction period : 18 months, Trial Run : 6 months and Paid Maintenance : 60 months)** for Package 1 & 2 - Extension of e-tender Notice - intimation - reg.
Ref : This office IFB No.16/ F.CWSS to Rasipuram Package -1 & 2/ DO(T2)/ CE/ CBE/ 2022/ Dated.18.03.2022.
The sale period, Last date for receipt and opening of the tender through e-submission called for in the reference cited for the above work is here by extended as below.

Sl. No.	Description	Existing	Extended up to
1	The last date for free download/ Sale of e-document Tender	25.04.2022 upto 17.45 Hours	09.05.2022 upto 17.45 Hours
2	The last date for receipt of Tender through e-submission.	26.04.2022 upto 15.00 Hours	10.05.2022 upto 15.00 Hours
3	Date & Time of opening of Tender through e-submission using DSC Keys	27.04.2022 at 15.30 Hours (Package –1) and 16.00 Hours (Package–2)	11.05.2022 at 15.30 Hours (Package –1) and 16.00 Hours (Package–2)

All other terms and conditions already published remain unaltered.
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PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited
Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala - 147001.
Corporate Identity No. : U40109PB2010SGC033813, Website : www.pspcl.in
Contact No. 96461-18773
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Chief Purchase Officer/ MM. Central Purchase Organization, PSPCL, 2nd floor, Multistorey Building, The Mall, Patiala, invites E-Tender for Supply of Sub-Station Structure for Mounting of 11/0.4 KV Transformer on 9 Meter Double Pole-7250 no. sets and 11 meter Double Pole - 350 no sets against **Tender Enquiry No. QQ- 1314/PSPCL/PO/C&S.**
For detailed NIT & Tender specification please refer to **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in** from **25.04.2022** onwards.
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191/C-142/22-4/23/2022
76155/12/811/2021/13704

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER AND DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURAL MARKETING
Government of Andhra Pradesh, Guntur.
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E-procurement T. No. SE(AM)/AP/GNT/Ep/05/2022-23, Dated: 22-4-2022
Online tenders are invited by the Superintending Engineer (AM) Guntur from the reputed firms. **(i)** Supply, Installation & Commissioning of Machinery for e-NAM Market Yards across the State of Andhra Pradesh. **(ii)** Providing Assaying services in e-Market Yards across the state of Andhra Pradesh. **(iii)** Supply and installation of 18 Nos Desk Top computers. Eprocurement site opens on **Dt. 25-4-2022 @ 4.00 P.M.** Any other information can be had from the **www.tender.apeprocurement.gov.in** or from the office of the Superintending Engineer (AM) Guntur.
Sd/- Superintending Engineer (AM),
O/o. Commissioner and Director of Agrl. Marketing, Govt. of A.P, Guntur.

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Tender Notice No. RWF/S/002/2022-23 Dated 22/04/2022
On behalf of the President of India, the Principal Chief Materials Manager invites Electronic Open Tender from experienced OEMs / Manufacturers or authorized agents for supply of the following items on the Indian Railways e-portal **www.ireps.gov.in.** The tender documents and the Corrigendam to the Tenders, if any, will be available on the portal only.

Sl. No.	Tender Number and Item Description	Qty	Tender Closing Date and Time
1	**P2 215675A :** Design, Fabrication, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of PNG Pipeline To SPC Bay.	01 Set	16/05/22 14:00 Hrs.
2	**P2225255A :** Supply, Installation & Commissioning of Swarf Shredder	03 Nos.	16/05/22 14:00 Hrs.
3	**P3225009 (Global Tender) :** Turret Head Assembly for CNC SPM. **Make:** O.M.G SRL/Italy	02 Set	20/05/22 14:00 Hrs
4	**P3225010 (Global Tender) : Item No.1.** Left Hand Mounting (LH Side) Turret, **Make:** Sauter/germany Only. **Item No.2.** Right Hand Mounting (RH Side) Turret, **Make:** Sauter/germany Only.	01 No.	23/05/22 14:00 Hrs.
5	**P3225012 (Global Tender) :** Linear Guide, **Make:** THK Only.	56 Nos.	23/05/22 14:00 Hrs.

Tender details can be viewed on our website **www.rwf.indianrailways.gov.in** or **www.ireps.gov.in**
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"Who says soul has only one colour?" Joss Stone

U.S. SIGNALS END OF FREE LUNCH: WHO IS PAYING?

THE THIRD EYE

SHANKKAR AIYAR
Author of The Gated Republic, Aadhaar: A Biometric History of India's 12 Digit Revolution, and Accidental India
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ALAN Greenspan, who understands the intricate interplay of reason and emotion influencing financial markets, once observed that "Fear is a far more dominant force in human behaviour than euphoria." On Friday, indices on the US stock market tumbled — the Dow fell by over 900 points. Worse, the projections of the futures segment over the weekend suggest a bloody Monday for stock markets across the globe. Forecasts for every major index — Nikkei, Hang Seng, Nifty50, FTSE, DJIA, NASDAQ, S&P et al — are bathed in red.

It can be safely said that the old adage 'there is no free lunch' has come home to roost. For two years, the developed economies led by the US created money like there was no tomorrow — between the arrival of the virus and the vaccination, G7 economies had poured an estimated $9 trillion to sustain financial stability and to stimulate the economy. In the process, the US Federal Reserve had expanded its balance sheet to $ 9 trillion and was buying over $ 120 billion of issuances including junk bonds in a seductively titled nomenclature of ''fallen angels''.

The phraseology deployed by the US Federal Reserve in its official stance was that inflation was 'transitory'. By the time Fed Chairman Jerome Powell 'retired' the phase in February, inflation had touched 7.9 per cent and in April, it recorded a 40-year high of 8.5 per cent. The fear now is that from the illusion of transitory inflation the global economy is sliding into a space where growth is transitory!

The transition of the US Fed from dovish to hyper hawkish is stunning. This Thursday, Powell indicated that a 50 basis points hike in rates is on the table. This has triggered calls for steeper hikes. While financial service giant Nomura expects hikes of 50, 75 and 75 basis points in May, June and July, Citibank expects four hikes of 50 basis points each between May and August. Effectively what would have come through in ten months is now being compressed in three-four months. Almost every central bank is poised to end stimulus packages and hike rates, and this will have a significant bearing on the cost of money. The shock induced by sudden hike of rates by the US Fed will constrain liquidity and worsen credit risks.

The IMF, in its latest outlook, has laid out a grim scenario in a detailed analysis of previous episodes of quantitative tightening: "Surprise tightening, particularly in the US, has been associated with capital flow reversals from emerging market and developing economies, widening spreads, currency depreciations, and tighter external financial conditions". The implications of steeper 'front loaded' rate hikes, particularly in the light of the slowing of China's economy and the consequences of the Ukraine invasion, is grave for India and the developing world.

The rising cost of capital will impact consumption, global trade and growth. India is as yet the fastest growing large economy — and that matters — but the emerging circumstances present some serious challenges. India's good news story of booming exports and ambitions to ramp up service exports is vulnerable to slowdowns in the developed world. Rise in interest rates typically triggers a flight to safety and returns. Already foreign portfolio investors have been selling off — FII sales add up to over ₹29,000 crore in April alone. India is a net importer of petroleum products and this could worsen the hit on the rupee. It is true that India's forex reserves afford a buffer but the RBI has already spent over $ 30 billion to curtail volatility and to stabilise the currency. Further interventions are subject to the statute of limitations.

The gross borrowings of India's states and the union government is expected to be around ₹23 lakh crore. India's debt GDP ratio shot up post the pandemic to 90 per cent of GDP and is now at 86 per cent. The fiscal balance is scaffolded by the ambitious plan to monetise assets and disinvestments. The LIC listing would come up for review if the slide in stock markets is deep and sustained. The idea of crowding in private investment via public expenditure will again be influenced by the cost of capital. Sure tax collections have been higher, but so are allocations for welfare expenditure.

India is better positioned than most economies, but its balances as always are fragile and vulnerable. Neuro psychiatrists will tell you that stress is not located in what happens but how the entity responds to what happens. There are opportunities to tap for investments leveraging the developed world's quest for resilient supply chains and the hunger of global funds focussed on ESG. There is room to expand trade and calls for expansion of FTAs and improved economic engagement with the consumers of the world. The moot question is can India's policy makers be humble and nimble.

Economic outcomes are defined by the choices in policy and expectations. The US has signalled the end of free lunch. The crux is who is paying. The excesses of the developed world have come to haunt the developing world. And the worst hit will be the economies at the bottom of the pyramid. It is useful to remember that rate hikes are not a silver bullet. The spectre of inflation is not going away anytime soon. The drivers of inflation are governed by externalities such as sanctions, pandemic and supply chain disruptions. Fasten the seatbelts for the rough ride ahead.

THE AGE OF CRIME AND COMPUTERS

POINT OF VIEW

T J S GEORGE

IMAGINE a situation where a household celebrity of Karnataka such as B S Yediyurappa cannot be found. That is what happened in the ultra-modern state recently. There is a special court for the trial of cases involving MPs and MLAs. Officials attached to the court failed to serve summons on Yedi, accused in a land denotification case of 2012. Reason: The accused could not be found.

The official visited Yedi's house on three different days. The big man was busy touring the state, the official was told. Why the tourist could not be tracked, why he could not be contacted on phone, why nothing was done after the perfunctory house visit by the official, no one knows. What everyone knew was that officials were very busy finalising arrangements to name Shivamogga Airport after Yedi.

The reality is obvious: Public life has become intermingled with criminalities. You can no longer be a successful politician unless you do things that are considered punishable. Things like a court summons are seen as signs of the importance a political leader has achieved. Dodging the court then becomes his democratic right. And a status signal.

There was a time when a court summons was evidence of a person's involvement in undesirable activities. This changed when ''undesirable activities'' included a large slice of political activities. The cyber age is bringing about more changes. Now there are ultra-modern devices to shield real offenders.

In Bengaluru, the tech capital of the country, the police have set up what is called Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD). This has helped cyber crime victims to get refunds of ₹ 2.8 crore that they had been swindled of. Forget for the moment the unrefunded crores. The authorities put it this way: ''CAD is a new system of registering crime where the focus is on being victim-friendly and swift recording of all details.'' If you think you are a cyber-crime victim, all you have to do is to make a call to Number 112. A police control room operator will take down information and register a ''cyber crime incident report.'' Hopefully, the control room police will immediately start remedial action.

Cyber crime victims will need a special kind of thick skin to approach the police for help. That is because they are ordinary citizens while those who take freedom with the law are well-connected politicians. This was clear even before "cyber crime" became fashionable. When crime was simply crime, official sources showed that more than 2,556 sitting MLAs and MPs from 22 states were involved in criminal cases.

In 2009, as much as 30 per cent of Lok Sabha members had criminal cases against them. In 2014 this increased to 34 per cent, and in 2019 to 43 per cent. It looked as though involvement in some criminal activity was a qualification for membership of the Lok Sabha. Prejudiced as we are, many of us think that the high level of criminality is because of states like Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. In our imagination, we see these states as "lawless". Well, be ready for a surprise. The highest percentage of candidates facing criminal charges was in Goa (32 per cent) and Kerala (29 per cent). What does this mean?

That people in positions of power are often involved in criminalities is something that we don't normally presume. But if we look closely at some of the happenings that shocked the country, a different picture may emerge. The encounter killing of Sohrabuddin Sheikh in 2005 and of his wife is now part of history. In July 2010, the CBI filed a 30,000-page charge sheet that led to the arrest of several policemen and also of Amit Shah. As always, where big fish is involved, things just float away. Nothing happens in the end.

Just think about that phrase ''encounter killing''. It's an all-purpose phrase. You can kill someone you don't like, and then say it was an e. k., sounding like something that was just and justifiable. The public don't even know how many citizens have been disposed of under e. k. Patriotism can be packaged in multiple ways. If a murder is packaged by leaders recognised by the public as leaders, then no one will dare question what is inside the packaging.

Our democracy was no doubt nurtured by leaders like Gandhi, Nehru and Patel. It was sturdy and genuine. But they are gone, and a new breed of leaders is at the helm now. Their ideas are different as are their ideals. Leaders no longer get the trust of the led. Who are the bigger losers — the leaders or the led?

CONGRESS NEEDS GRASSROOTS NOT GRASSHOPPERS LIKE PK

POWER & POLITICS

PRABHU CHAWLA
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Follow him on Twitter @PrabhuChawla

THIS is the Age of Insecurity, when false prophets become purveyors of hope. Pseudo apostles are on the prowl, wooing and conning netas who have lost faith in themselves. These sham shamans come with hustle and hard sell, offering crutches and contrary credibility. Their marketing style is hi-tech image conjuring using gadgets and gizmos.

The Gandhis-led Congress is on Mission Crutchfinder to find its feet again. Repeated poll debacles, plummeting popularity and inconsistency are pushing them to seek saviours outside the party. Instead of depending on cadres and trusted leaders, the Gandhis are chasing the pollster for all parties and pocket calculator for all polls, political itinerant PK aka Prashant Kishor, whose ambition has brought him a multimillion poll management business. Are the Gandhis suckers for punishment? Last week, they presented PK to senior Congress leaders as Superman on steroids. Kishor flashed his laptop and gave a 600-slide PowerPoint Presentation. For over six hours, over a dozen senior leaders, including former Union Ministers, were told to listen to PK's idea of a new Congress and its future. Extolled were the virtues of the man who bills parties obscene amounts of money to replace their cadres with volunteers holding edgy laptops and smart phones. PK hires clever copywriters and graphic designers to mesmerise audience with sexy slides and suave slogans that make him look like a master strategist.

After all, his organisation Indian Political Action Committee (I-PAC) boasts of working towards reshaping participatory democracy. Instead, it has handsomely reshaped his bank accounts.

Whoever the client may be, PK's sales pitch is the same— "I'm the rabbit's foot of poll strategy and election execution." He was sidelined after claiming that Narendra Modi became India's most popular leader, thanks to I-PAC. He had tricked gullible media platforms to convey Modi won Bihar first and India later because of his strategic planning. In reality, the PM's successes after 2014 owe nothing to I-PAC, which was sent packing by Modi who treated PK as just another resource. Once he was out of the charmed circle, PK hawked his election management expertise to various regional parties. However, neither Sonia, Rahul or Priyanka Gandhi seem to possess Modi's political acumen — 3G conveniently forgot that PK failed miserably to launch Rahul during the 2017 UP elections. He also flopped when he arm-twisted the Gandhis to project the ageing Sheila Dikshit as the CM face and coined a slogan to malign Akhilesh Yadav's government. In a few months, he persuaded them to ally with SP and created a fresh slogan "*UP Ke Ladke*." Result: Congress polled just six per cent of the votes and got seven seats. PK's fancy events like '*Khat pe Charcha*' backfired.

When he failed in UP, he legerdemained success in Punjab. Kishor is an experienced salesman, forget the product's quality or quantity. He is cool with changing the goalposts. According to reports, he is determined to enter Congress at all costs. Over the past few weeks, the same man who had tried for a Gandhi-Mukt front won over the Gandhi Parivar again. Last year, he was promoting a non-Gandhi as the party chief. According to Congress insiders, the first slide projected Priyanka as the new party president. The next one advised that Rahul be promoted as Modi's alternative. Many leaders were so disgusted by PK's hypothesis that one even challenged the prognosis. At one stage, PK claimed he wasn't keen on joining the party. Promptly, a senior Congressman reminded the room of PK's stated desire to join the party. The Bihari Brahmin's insistence that Congress must ally with Mamata Banerjee in Bengal, Stalin in Tamil Nadu, KCR in Telangana and Chandrababu Naidu in Andhra Pradesh is obviously to maximise his own economic interest. KCR wants feedback on the coming Assembly elections. The Telangana Congress

says Kishor was promised a fat fee. The Congress, in spite of all its calamities, still has capital in the state by being the second largest party with the juice to replace the regional party in the long run. PK's proposal that Congress fly solo in Bihar and Jharkhand could be an attempt to create a rift between Lalu Yadav and Congress. The RJD chief is a strong supporter of the Gandhis for the past two decades.

The fact is PK is indeed unique because he is India's first poll-ygamist. He uses various techniques and flirts with multiple parties, driven only by the call of commerce. But, he discovered to his dismay that he was a giant only in his own eyes but an unholy hologram for political parties. Politicians made him richer than his wildest predictions but did not give political recognition. People who know him claim that he is looking for a national role after making millions. But it is always shocking to see how experienced politicians fell for PK and I-PAC's dubious charms. Rarely has he converted a loser into a winner. He has been pitching a narrative that but for his mastery Modi, Mamata, Amarinder, Stalin, Nitish, Jagan and Shiv Sena would have lost. For example, after 10 years of incumbency and corruption, Akali Dal was bound to lose. The obvious alternative was the Congress. Amarinder was enamoured by PK's hype. He was hired and paid well. Amarinder led the Congress to victory but PK hogged the credit and the Captain stopped talking to senior leaders. PK then latched on to Arvind Kejriwal who was far ahead in Punjab. However, PK suffered a humiliating defeat in UP.

His second coming was after netting Nitish Kumar who had left the NDA and floated a Mahaghathbandhan with RJD and Congress. Keeping in view the caste arithmetic, Nitish was assured of victory but PK stole the credit. Seeking political real estate, PK joined JDU as its vice-president, only to be expelled because of domineering behaviour and arrogance. But he found new takers in west and south, all sure winners. DMK was assured of victory because it had a better leader in MK Stalin while AIADMK didn't. In Andhra Pradesh, when Chandrababu had left NDA and was facing massive anti-incumbency, PK hypnotised Jagan and claimed I-PAC magic brought YSR Congress to power. In Bengal, Mamata was made to believe that she needed someone who knew the Modi-Shah mindset. Mamata was the obvious CM choice. But PK claimed the laurels. He was warned for meddling in TMC's internal affairs. Soon after the Bengal elections, PK told national TV, "I do not want to continue what I am doing. I have done enough. Time to take a break and do something else. I want to quit this space. I am a failed politician. I have to go back and see what I have to do." He added that perhaps he would go to Assam for "doing tea-gardening".

PK is back in the garden of 10 Janpath from where he wants to launch himself not only as the Congress saviour, but also grab a national role through networking with clients in other states. The Gandhis' fixation with PK appears to be part of the party's post-Indira DNA. Rajiv Gandhi chose technocrats like Sam Pitroda, Arun Singh, Arun Nehru to modernise his party. Sonia encouraged IITians like Jairam Ramesh and Nandan Nilekani to give it sheen. But Congress lost the masses. It certainly cannot be revived with PPTs and party hoppers.

PK has proved that people who fool themselves that they cannot be fooled are the best business opportunities. There is more native wisdom and acumen in the ranks than in the motherboard of political vanity. The Congress needs the grassroots to win, not grasshoppers like Kishor who leap from party to party as the arbiters of election history.

QUOTE CORNER

Next week, I will meet with President Vladimir Putin in Russia and President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in Ukraine. We need urgent steps to save lives, end the human suffering and bring about peace in Ukraine.

António Guterres, UN secretary-general

I think that the headscarf is a uniform imposed by the Islamists. I think that the great majority of the women who wear one can't do otherwise in reality, even if they don't dare say so.

Marine Le Pen, France presidential contender

I want to stand trial because that's the only way I can get rid of the Red Notice which today forbids me from leaving Lebanon. There was not one Euro (from Nissan or Renault) that ended up benefitting me directly or indirectly.

Carlos Ghosn, former Nissan boss

MAILBAG WRITE TO letters@newindianexpress.com

Time to instill road discipline

The edit 'Address root cause of road accidents' (April 23) has rightly observed that the menace of careless driving, rampant corruption in RTOs and inability of police force to implement stringent penalties as root causes of the malaise. Presently, traffic law enforcement is in the hands of regular police force. It is better to have a dedicated special force of policemen exclusively for overseeing, regulating traffic movement and enforce stringent measures as per the new MV Act. Extant arrangement of deploying police for traffic duty is grossly inadequate to effectively deal with the menace.

Hemanth Bhide,Mangalore

Inflation going out of hand

The country is in the throes of a 30-year high Wholesale Price Inflation (WPI), which in the coming days will push up retail prices further. Paradoxically, this is when IMF has praised India for achieving one of the world's highest growth rate of 8.2% for 2021-22. War or no war, inflation is a perpetual phenomenon which throws the family budget of at least bottom 50% of the population out of gear. Consider today's housing cost, medical expenses etc. for example, compared to a decade back. The poorer sections need to be isolated from the shocks of ever spiralling inflation at least partly. Mere distribution of some subsidised foodgrains is not enough. Will the governments realise?

P Mangalachandran, Kannur

No language imposition

This has reference to Limits of state power in Language Policy.(April 23) The present system of Hindi functioning as the pfficial language, as per Article 343 of the Constitution for communication between the Centre and states in the Hindi belt, alongwith English as associate official language, the language to be used for communication between the centre and states is going excellently well. The states have their own official language, with some like Mizoram having English as the official language. There is no meaning in disturbing the equilibrium. Anything imposed will be met with resistance. Even in Tamil Nadu, people are accepting cultural programmes in Hindi. While British subjugation was the reason for unity among Indians, English was instrumental for revival of Indian nationalism. Most of the nationalist leaders had the best of English education. English will continue to be the unifying factor for manifold reasons.

Dharmarajan AK, Thalassery

Schools are for education only

It is really shocking that an employee of a school in East Tambaram, Chennai has asked the wife of a man to remove her hijab saying it was not allowed on the school premises, when they had gone to the school to admit their child in LKG. It is more shocking that when the couple had taken up the issue with the school management, the principal has curtly reiterated that nobody was allowed to wear a hijab in their school. There has been problems in the schools in the BJP-ruled Karnataka and now the malaise has started showing its dirty face in Tamil Nadu. It should be nipped in the bud itself, and the perpetrators should be booked and punished. If the government fails to take severe action against the school and the principal without delay, this menace will spread fast in an uncontrollable manner and create communal divide and unrest among the communities. We should not allow such elements to infiltrate Tamil Nadu.

Tharcius S Fernando, Chennai

Wimbledon's poor decision

Wimbledon's ban on Russian and Belarusian players from taking part in this year's Grand Slam event could rob the premier tournament of its sheen. The decision means world number two Daniil Medvedev, world number eight Andrey Rublev, and women's fourth-ranked Aryna Sabalenka of Belarus sit out of Wimbledon, which begins on June 27. Several leading players, including world number one Novak Djokovic, have slammed the move. The ban joins a long list of political and economic sanctions against Russia.

NJ Ravi Chander, Bengaluru

THE NEW SUNDAY EXPRESS

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TWEETS OF THE DAY

Rahul Gandhi @RahulGandhi
Inflation Rate: 6.95% FD. Interest Rate: 5% Forget depositing ₹15 lakh to your bank accounts, PM's 'masterstrokes' ruined savings.

Sitaram Yechury @SitaramYechury
3 Indian economists produced a 'working paper', claiming extreme poverty in India dropped below 1%. Simple falsehood.

Yogi Adityanath @myogiadityanth
Today, Uttar Pradesh has become the first state in the country to provide a protective cover of more than 31 crore Covid-19 doses.

One +ve person spreading Covid to 2 in Delhi

R-value, indicating spread of the infection, stands at 2.1 this week in national capital, according to IIT-Madras study

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ New Delhi

EVERY Covid-positive person is infecting two others in the national capital as the city's R-value, indicating the spread of coronavirus, was recorded at 2.1 this week, according to a study by IIT-Madras.

The Department of Mathematics and Centre of Excellence for Computational Mathematics and Data Science did the preliminary analysis by computational modeling. The department, headed by Prof Neelesh S Upadhye and Prof S Sundar, found that Delhi's R-value this week was recorded at 2.1 against the country's R-value of 1.3.

Asked if the rise in cases in Delhi could be the beginning of the fourth wave, Dr Jayant Jha, Assistant Professor in the Department of Mathematics at IIT-Madras said it would be too early to declare an onset of another wave.

"We can only say right now that every person is affecting two others....but we need to wait a bit to declare onset...we don't know about the immunity status and whether the people who got affected during the third wave in January are getting affected or not again," he told a news agency.

As for other metro cities, the number of cases is too low to ascertain a trend.

Delhi is witnessing a steady rise in the number of Covid-19 cases. The city recorded 1,042 fresh Covid cases with a positivity rate of 4.64 per cent on Friday. The Omicron sub-lineage BA.2.12 has been detected in a majority of the samples sequenced from Delhi in the first fortnight of April and it could be behind the spurt in the numbers.

"New sub-variants BA.2.12 (52 per cent samples) and BA.2.10 (11 per cent samples) are showing high transmission and have been found in over 60 per cent of the total samples from Delhi sequenced recently," an official source said.

The Indian SARS-CoV-2 Genomics Consortium (INSACOG) has claimed that the Omicron variant derivative BA.2.12.1 has been found in a few samples in Delhi. Officials, however, have not confirmed this. The BA.2.12.1 variant is said to be contributing to the recent rise in cases in the US.

The number of fresh Covid-19 cases are inching towards the 1,100-mark with 1,094 persons testing positive. The city recorded two deaths due to the disease. Country-wide, 2,527 new cases and 33 fatalities were reported.

PM Narendra Modi will hold a video conference on Wednesday with chief ministers on the emerging situation.

INFECTION ON THE RISE

An R-value of over 1 indicates that the number of active cases has increased

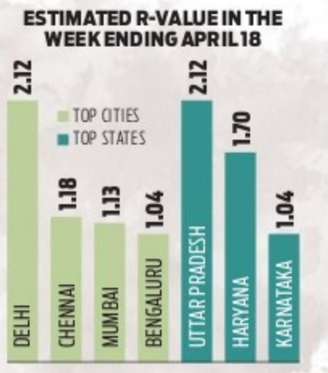
An R number lower than 1 indicates that the disease will stop spreading as there aren't enough people being infected to sustain the outbreak

1.3 India's R-value currently

0.93 April 5-11

1.07 April 12-18

Last time the R-value was above 1 was on **January 16-22**, when it was **1.28**



RAISINA DIALOGUE

EU prez visit likely to facilitate FTA talks with India

YESHI SELI @ New Delhi

INDIA and the European Union are looking to take forward their partnership as President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, reaches New Delhi on Sunday.

She will be attending the seventh edition of the Raisina Dialogue (April 25-27) as the chief guest. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Leyen will both address the inaugural session on April 25.

India and the EU are celebrating six decades of relations. "I am off to Delhi as we celebrate 60 years of EU-India relations, during which we built a solid friendship. And a cooperation that we now both want to take to the next level. I am looking forward to my discussions with Narendra Modi," she posted on Twitter just before taking off.

"Let us take the European Union-India partnership forward. This would mean negotiating ambitious trade and investment agreements, connecting the world with global gateway, driving the digital revolution, fighting climate change and achieving a just energy transition,'' she said in another tweet.

This is von der Leyen's first visit to India in official capacity. The main agenda is to enhance India-EU strategic partnership along with cooperation in the Indo-Pacific, defence and security, connectivity, energy and biodiversity.

The long awaited deliberations related to the India-EU Free Trade Agreement are also expected during her trip. The preliminary talks took place last month.

The EU is India's largest trading partner, accounting for 80 billion worth of trade in goods or 11.1 per cent of total Indian trade in 2019, which was on par with the US and ahead of China (10.7 per cent). The EU is the second-largest destination for Indian exports (over 14 per cent of the total) after the United States.

Ursula von der Leyen will hold talks with PM Narendra Modi | EXPRESS

Six new judges likely in Calcutta HC

New Delhi: The Supreme Court collegium headed by Chief Justice of India N V Ramana has recommended to the Centre the names of six additional judges for permanent appointment in the Calcutta High Court. The collegium, which also comprised senior most judges U U Lalit and A M Khanwilkar, approved the proposal for appointment of Justice Satyen Vaidya, additional judge of the Himachal Pradesh HC.

SC declines to stay NGT order on UP wood industries

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ New Delhi

THE Supreme Court has declined to stay a National Green Tribunal (NGT) order against the establishment of new wood-based industries in Uttar Pradesh till a clear assessment on district-wise, species-wise and diameter class-wise inventory on the availability of timber for consumption is done.

The NGT had in its order quashed a notice issued by the Uttar Pradesh government dated March 3, 2019, regarding the establishment of new wood-based industries and saw mills.

The top court said that prima facie, it was in agreement with the tribunal that data had to be collected by the state before permitting new wood-based industries. The view expressed was subject to a decision to be taken after hearing the parties in detail at a later stage, a bench of Justices L Nageswara Rao and BR Gavai said in the order dated April 22.

The bench, however, clarified that the state government was at liberty to pursue its request to the Indian Plywood Industries Research & Training Institute (IPIRTI), Bengaluru, to conduct an assessment before taking a decision to grant licence to new wood-based industries.

The court further observed that in view of the importance of the issues involved in these appeals, they would be heard during summer vacation or in August 2022.

The UP government had proposed to grant licences to 1,350 new wood-based industries though the notice in March 2019. This notice was challenged 'in public interest' before the NGT's main bench in Delhi by Samvit Foundation, Uday Education & Welfare Trust and UP Timber Association.

The tribunal, on the basis of the data placed before it, observed that there would hardly be any industrial wood available for new industries. It noted that establishment of new industries would lead to shortage of timber and these industries would then resort to illegal means to procure timber.

When the matter reached SC, the UP government argued that there's surplus of timber and it was being supplied to other states. Besides, the decision had been taken based on expert opinions and studies, the state's counsel told the court.

I&B MINISTRY ADVISORY

Provocative content on communal flare-up flagged

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ New Delhi

UNION Ministry of Information and Broadcasting on Saturday issued an advisory to private TV news channels against making false and provocative claims and using socially unacceptable language. The ministry also cautioned them against misleading reportage and scandalous headlines/taglines.

The advisory flagged two instances in particular -- the Ukraine-Russia conflict and the Jahangirpuri demolition in Delhi -- where it said TV news content and debates were found to be in violation of the Programme Code.

The ministry said it found that in the recent past, several channels had carried out coverage of events and incidents in a manner which appears to be unauthentic, misleading, sensational and using socially unacceptable language and remarks, offending good taste and decency.

The ministry found that while reporting on Ukraine-Russia conflict, some channels used scandalous headlines and made unsubstantiated claims, frequently misquoted international agencies and used hyperbole in order to incite audience.

In case of Delhi violence, certain channels aired news items with provocative headlines and videos of violence that could disrupt peace, and law and order, the ministry said.

The ministry has noted and also cautioned private TV channels against broadcasting debates having unparliamentary, provocative and socially unacceptable language, communal remarks and derogatory references which may have a negative psychological impact on viewers and may also incite communal disharmony.

Citing these instances of violation, the ministry expressed serious concern over the programmes aired and strongly advised against violation of provisions of Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act.

CRICKETERS CAUSE TWITTER STIR OVER CONSTITUTION

My country, my beautiful country, has the potential to be the greatest country on earth.BUT...

Irfan Pathan

My country, my beautiful country, has the potential to be the greatest country on earth..... only if some people realise that our constitution is the first book to be followed

Amit Mishra

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ New Delhi

FORMER India cricketers Amit Mishra and Irfan Pathan have caused a stir on social media with their twitter exchange hinting at the recent incidents of communal clashes in several parts of the country.

Mishra, the 39-year-old spinner, took to his Twitter handle to respond to a post by Pathan who had earlier in the week posted a cryptic tweet following the anti-encroachment drive in Delhi's Jahangirpuri area. The drive saw various properties in the region being demolished which led to massive debates among India's political fraternity.

Following the events, Pathan, in an open-ended tweet, said, "My country, my beautiful country, has the potential to be the greatest country on earth. BUT……." The post went viral on social media with many people reacting and giving their opinion on what the 2007 T20 World Cup winner meant.

In response, Mishra completed the line that Pathan had left open to interpretation. "My country, my beautiful country, has the potential to be the greatest country on earth…..only if some people realise that our Constitution is the first book to be followed."

Pathan then responded with a tweet saying, "Always follow this and I urge each citizen of our beautiful country to follow this. Please read and re-read....", along with the image of the Preamble of the Constitution which describes India as a Socialist Secular Democratic Republic.

The exchange has since caused a major divide on social media, with many slamming and others lauding Mishra for his comment while others siding with Pathan.

While neither of them explained the context of their tweets, social media users felt it came in the backdrop of the violence in Delhi's Jahangirpuri and communal clashes elsewhere in the country.

Panchayat members from the state arrive to participate in a rally to be addressed by PM Narendra Modi at Palli in Samba district on Saturday | PTI

UAE businessmen to attend PM's first event in J&K post abrogation

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

THE first visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Jammu and Kashmir after abrogation of Article 370 on Sunday is going to send a strong political and economic message as top businessmen and investors from the UAE will attend the function to be held at Palli village in border district of Samba.

The PM will visit Panchayat Palli in Samba, close to the International Border (IB) in Jammu, at around 11.30 am to attend national Panchayati Raj Diwas. About 30,000 panchayat members from all parts of J&K are expected to attend the function as the PM will address representatives of around 700 panchayats across the country virtually.

J&K's Industries and Commerce Secretary Ranjan Prakash Thakur told this newspaper that the UAE businessmen had already arrived. They include Sultan Ahmed bin Sulayem, CEO of DP World, M A Yusuff Ali, Lulu Group chairman and MD, and Mohamed Ali Alabbar, Emaar Properties founder and MD. "They have come here to attend the event and meet the Prime Minister," he said, adding these businessmen had recently pledged to make invest in J&K in a big way.

During the Dubai-2022 Expo in January, many top UAE businessmen had signed MoUs with J&K government for investment to the tune of ₹3,000 crore, especially in real estate, infrastructure, tourism, IT, healthcare, manpower and employment sectors.

Security arrangements have been fortified for the PM's visit. Sources said NSG commandos, who are coordinating with J&K Police and other security agencies, have taken over the security of the venue and deployed hi-tech surveillance system to ensure foolproof security. A multi-tier security system has been put in place not just in and around the venue but also at other sensitive and vulnerable areas. Security around government installations, military camps, airport and railway stations has been further beefed up after Friday's encounter in Sanjuwan in Jammu in which two Jaish-e-Mohammad Fidayeen and a CISF officer were killed and nine security men injured.

20k-cr worth projects

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate and lay foundation stones of multiple development initiatives worth over `20,000 crore

Defence PRO deletes tweet on J&K Iftar

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

A tweet highlighting the Indian Army's Iftar party done from the official account of the Public Relations Officer (PRO) Defence, Jammu was deleted on Saturday following a senior journalist and editor-in-chief of a TV channel raised objection over it.

Reacting to the tweet by the PRO officer, which invoked secularism with the Indian Army, CMD and Editor in Chief of Sudarshan News Television Suresh Chavahnke tagged the tweet of the Army saying, "Ab ye bimari Bhartiya sena mein bhi ghuss gayi hai? Dukhad..." (Now this disease has spread in the Indian Army? Sad).

Speaking to SS, serving and retired officers said Army must have not deleted the message.

NOT OVER YET

Supreme Court lifeline for endangered birds

PRATHMA SHARMA @ New Delhi

THERE is good news for bird lovers and environmentalists. The Supreme Court has directed installation of bird diverters on overhead power transmission lines in specified areas in Gujarat and Rajasthan by July 20, for the protection of the critically endangered birds Great Indian Bustard and Lesser Florican.

These birds are not good flyers and often come in collision with the power lines with fatal consequences. Environmentalists have complained about this. These two species primarily reside in certain pockets of these two states. Their population has reduced drastically in the last few years.

"All necessary steps shall be taken immediately for ensuring that the time schedule of completing the installation of bird diverters in the priority areas associated with the Great Indian Bustard and Lesser Florican is observed by all power producers in Gujarat and Rajasthan," the Supreme Court said in an order passed on April 21.

Lesser Florican

Great Indian Bustard

The top court asked the governments of Rajasthan and Gujarat as well as all power producers in the private domain to ensure that in the priority areas, a comprehensive exercise is completed within three weeks to assess the total length of transmission lines, and the estimated number of bird diverters required for the purpose.

The directions of the court came on a petition seeking to protect the Great Indian Bustard and Lesser Florican, which are on the verge of extinction. "The existence of overhead power lines is stated to have become a hazard due to which the said species of birds are getting killed on collision," the plea had said. It is estimated that only a few hundred of these birds are surviving.

The Supreme Court had earlier directed the Rajasthan and Gujarat governments to file a status report on the matter. The status report indicated that it had received eight applications for exemption from the requirement of setting up underground transmission lines.

A committee has tabulated the status of the applications. The tabulated chart indicated that of the eight applications which were submitted to it, the committee approved two applications on the receipt of a technical report permitting the laying of overhead transmission lines subject to the installation of bird diverters.

The remaining six applications are at various stages of scrutiny upon which a decision is expected to be taken by the committee.

IAS HELD FOR BRIBERY

An IAS officer and a Rajasthan Administrative Officer have been arrested for taking a bribe from a builder to allow him to do his construction work smoothly, the state's Anti-Corruption Bureau said on Saturday

3 COPS SUSPENDED FOR DERELICTION OF DUTY IN RAPE CASE IN J&K

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	41	25	Mumbai	34	29
Bhopal	41	25	Panaji	32	28
Jaipur	39	27	Patna	40	25
Amritsar	38	22	Lucknow	41	27
Chennai	36	29	Port Blair	33	25
Kolkata	38	27	Imphal	31	17
Srinagar	25	09	Chandigarh	45	25

Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan in New Delhi on Saturday | PTI

Post riots, Chouhan & Modi discuss governance 'issues'

Amit Shah had visited Bhopal on Friday; state goes to poll next year

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

DAYS after communal violence in parts of BJP-ruled Madhya Pradesh and razing of houses belonging to the accused, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Saturday met PM Narendra Modi and discussed "governance issues."

The meeting took place a day after Union Home Minister Amit Shah's visit to the state where he had discussed the political situation in Madhya Pradesh. There are speculations about a change of guard in the central-Indian state where Assembly election is due in 2023.

The BJP had ousted the Kamal Nath-led Congress government two years ago following Jyotiraditya Scindia switching sides along with his supporters.

Taking to Twitter, PM Modi wrote: "Met MP CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan, who discussed the good governance initiatives of the MP government and how their transformative schemes are bringing a positive change in people's lives".

The chief minister, sharing details with the media, said the state government would organise the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas on January 9 in Indore. "Prior to this, there is a plan to organise the two-day Investor Summit on January 7 and 8 for which the prime minister has been invited. He said he briefed the PM about the state's model of "good governance".

> **Met CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan, who discussed the good governance initiatives of the MP government and how their transformative schemes are bringing a positive change**
>
> NARENDRA MODI, Prime Minister

The prime minister has also been invited to dedicate newly built premises of Mahakal temple at Ujjain to the nation. "Since our PM is a man of ideas, he has suggested many new things for the state. We will implement the PM's ideas gradually," Chouhan said.

The state has been exporting wheat to many countries. Chouhan informed the PM that around 20 lakh metric ton additional wheat was available for export.

Chouhan listed a number of steps such as a job scheme and start-up policy initiatives of his government. 'The government is constructing around 3,800 Amrit-Sarovars (ponds) in the state as part of the ongoing 'Aazadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'. "The people can assemble at these ponds and unfurl the national flag on August 15 and January 26," the CM said.

Mamata to visit Delhi on Apr 29, likely to meet PM

PRANAB MONDAL @ Kolkata

WEST Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee will be in Delhi on April 29 to attend a conference of chief ministers and high courts' chief justices across the country and she is likely to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi separately.

The meeting between the Bengal CM and the PM is said to be significant as Mamata had launched a potshot against BJP-led Centre two days ago amid the bulldozer row saying her government wants to unite people instead of bulldozing.

The conference, titled Chief Ministers-Chief Justices Conference on Judiciary, will be held on April 30 which was convened by the Chief Justice of India. The conference is going to be held after six years and it will be inaugurated by Modi.

"She (Mamata) will raise the issue of the state government's due of ₹90,000 crore from the Centre in the meeting with the Prime Minister. Other issues related to the relationship between the state and the Centre will also be discussed," said a senior leader of the ruling Trinamool Congress.

"On several occasions, Mamata has accused the Centre of using the central agencies to help the BJP. The ED summoned her nephew Abhishek Banerjee in connection with a money laundering case. She will also raise the issue of the Centre using central agencies against the state in the meeting with Modi," he added.

POLITICS HEATS UP

BJP CAUTIOUS AFTER IFTAR EPISODE

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

THE ruling alliance in Bihar appears adrift given CM Nitish Kumar's participation in an iftar party hosted by RJD's Tejashwi Yadav on Friday. The BJP's central leadership is learnt to have become more cautious over political maneuvering of the JD-U leader.

Meanwhile, Nitish Kumar on Saturday said there was no political connection to his visit to the Iftar party hosted by the RJD's first family. "The practice of hosting Iftar by political parties is in vogue for long," he said, adding that politicians cutting across party lines participated in such events.

JD-U sources, however, said contentious issues raised by the BJP such as the uniform civil code or CAA would not get the party support. "Our party is in alliance with the BJP but it does not mean we support it for its bulldozer politics and polarisation," said a senior JD-U leader.

What struck the BJP on Friday was Nitish Kumar's alleged secrecy over his presence at the RJD's Ifftar party. Without informing the BJP ally, he walked up to Rabri Devi's official residence where he found Tejashwi Yadav waiting to greet him, said a BJP source.

"Though Nitish Kumar went to the Patna airport on Saturday to welcome Union Home Minister Amit Shah, his Friday move has made us wary of the JD-U," said another party source.

Over the past few days, the Bihar BJP has questioned the state government over deteriorating law and order. The recent Assembly by-election defeat of the BJP candidate at Bochaha appears to have created a rift within the ruling alliance. It widened further on Friday with Nitish's participation in RJD's Ifftar party. "Whenever Nitish feels uncomfortable over alliance issues, he does something of this sort to put pressure on the BJP," said a BJP leader.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah being welcomed by Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar in Patna | PTI

SHAH HINTS AT HINDUTVA PUSH IN BIHAR

RAMASHANKAR @ Patna

UNION Minister Amit Shah on Saturday sent out a strong message to alliance partner JD-U that the saffron party was ready to aggressively pursue nationalism and Hindutva in Bihar.

Shah was attending an event in the memory of the 1857 uprising hero Veer Kunwar Singh at Jagdishpur in Bhojpur district. The programme, organised by the BJP with an eye on the 2024 Lok Sabha election, was attended by a 70,000-plus crowd.

Though Chief Minister Nitish Kumar was not invited to the event, he received Shah at Patna airport where the two leaders held a brief meeting. BJP state president Sanjay Jaiswal was also present at the meeting, which lasted for about half an hour.

While addressing the event at Jagdishpur, Shah announced a memorial for Veer Kunwar Singh. Taking a dig at historians of yesteryear, Shah said they (historians) did not do justice to Singh.

The aggressive posturing by BJP on nationalism and Hindutva will only leave Nitish in a dilemma as the chief minister is very conscious about his secular credentials, remarked political analyst Pramod Kumar.

"The BJP in any case will pursue its politics at full throttle across the country ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections and Bihar will be no exception," said a senior saffron party leader requesting anonymity.

> **Jai Ram Thakur says there are only two parties in the state but I say there is a third alternative. They are saying situation in Himachal is different but I say your intentions are wrong. I don't know politics. I am a staunchly honest person. Give us one chance for five years. If we don't work, reject us**
>
> ARVIND KEJRIWAL, AAP chief

Arvind Kejriwal addresses a rally in Himachal Pradesh's Kangra | PTI

Himachal CM copycat, give AAP a chance to bring change: Kejriwal

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

MOCKING the BJP government's announcement of free electricity and water in poll-bound Himachal Pradesh, AAP chief Arvind Kejriwal on Saturday said the former was just copying his party's 'Delhi Model'. "In the exam hall, (chief minister) Jai Ram Thakur was copying from the paper of Kejriwal. Do you want somebody who cheats or an honest person?" the Delhi chief minister asked the crowd while addressing a rally in Shahpur constituency of Kangra district.

Kejriwal said the saffron party is on one hand trying to copy the 'Delhi Model' of development while on the other claiming it won't work in Himachal.

Countering the BJP's claim that there was no scope for a third party in the state's politics, the AAP chief claimed his party has emerged as the third force. "Jai Ram Thakur says there are only two parties in the state but I say there is a third alternative. They are saying situation in Himachal is different but I say your intentions are wrong. We have to change Himachal Pradesh. I don't know politics. I am a staunchly honest person. Give us one chance for five years. If we don't work, reject us," he said, adding that if voted to power, his party would implement the 'Delhi Model' in the hills state.

Launching a broadside on the "poor state" of government schools in Himachal, Kejriwal compared them with schools in the national capital. "One can see the government schools in Delhi. This year they have got 99.7 per cent results. About 4 lakh more students have been admitted to government schools. In Delhi, private schools have not been allowed to increase fee for the past four years while medical treatment is free for all," Kejrwal said.

Terming Himachal Pradesh as "Dev Bhoomi", the Delhi CM said BJP and Congress have been looting the state. "Congress ruled for 30 years and BJP 17 years; now both parties are abusing me," he said, adding that the time has come to make a new Himachal.

Met PK, political call after May 15: Naresh Patel

DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA @ Ahmedabad

THE suspense over influential Patidar leader Naresh Patel's Delhi visit has refused to die down amid strong speculations that he might join the Congress.

The Khodhal Dham chief's arrival in the national capital on Friday evening was said to be a precursor to his much-anticipated political entry. A source in the state Congress said Naresh met with top Congress leaders and election strategist Prashant Kishor. Naresh, however, upon his return in Rajkot on Saturday, denied that he met any Congress leader. "I neither met any Congress leader nor any other party leader. Yes, I had been in Delhi since yesterday but I went there for a marriage function. I met Prashant Kishor there. Hardik Patel also met me a few days back," Naresh said, adding that he hasn't decided to join any party yet. "I will decide by May 15," he added.

Stating that he is serious about taking the political plunge, Naresh said he doesn't want to make any hasty move. "I don't want to take it in a hurry and get into trouble. I have to answer you, and my community, too. However, I don't lack decision-making power. I will announce my decision by May 15 whether I want to go into politics or not," Naresh said.

Confirming that he met Kishor in Delhi, Naresh refused to divulge what they discussed.

Even though Naresh denied meeting any Congress leader, sources claimed otherwise.

The sources said earlier too, Kishor had urged Naresh to join the Congress, but the latter had laid down a condition that he would do so only if Kishor joined the grand old party.

Meanwhile, Gujarat Congress in-charge Raghu Sharma said Naresh is a respected social leader. "It is a pleasure if he met the Congress high command. A leader like Naresh Patel is welcome in the Congress. His presence will make the party stronger."

Punjab 'amnesty' for pvt transporters

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chandigarh

THE newly formed AAP government in Punjab has come up with an amnesty scheme for the private transport sector, including taxi and auto-rickshaw operators, for three months in order to reinvigorate the sector which was badly hit by the Covid-19 pandemic.

As per the scheme, those who failed to pay their taxes due to the pandemic will get an opportunity to pay up without any penalty or arrears.

Sources said transporters, including taxi and auto-rickshaw drivers who could not pay the tax can do it till July 24 without paying interest or penalty.

Around 78,000 bus, taxi and auto-rickshaw operators will benefit from the scheme. The government is hoping to collect around ₹80 crore in taxes under this scheme. Also, this is expected to add to the state's non-tax revenue, the collection of which has been far below the target for several years.

It is estimated that at least 50 per cent of private transporters had failed to pay their motor vehicle tax and cess due to the pandemic.

Operators of around 1,200 private buses had already paid their taxes while an equal number of remaining operators are expected to benefit from the scheme.

The official announcement in this regard is likely to be made next week during a meeting convened by Punjab Transport Minister Laljit Singh Bhullar.

MP Navneet Rana and her spouse MLA Ravi Rana being escorted out of their house in Mumbai by Maharashtra Police on Saturday | PTI

Rana couple held after high-volt Maha drama

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

MUMBAI Police on Saturday arrested Lok Sabha MP Navneet Rana and her husband and independent MLA Ravi Rana on the charge of promoting enmity between different groups.

The arrest came hours after the couple scuttled their plan to recite *Hanuman Chalisa* outside the residence of Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray. The duo had said they were scuttling plan owing to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the state.

Earlier, the Rana couple's house in suburban Khar witnessed high-voltage drama after a large number of Shiv Sena workers gathered outside seeking the duo's arrest.

When the police were escorting the couple out of their house, Ravi Rana allegedly used abusive language against the chief minister.

Maharashtra Home Minister Dilip Walse Patil alleged the Ranas were disturbing social harmony. "Someone must be behind this. Otherwise they will not dare to plan such a drama outside Matoshree. They should not provoke Sena workers and take the law in their land," Patil said.

Shiv Sena leader Sanjay Raut said the party was not concerned about the Central agencies or imposition of President's Rule in Maharashtra. "BJP is behind all this drama. They are using the Rana couple like puppets," Raut said.

Leader of Opposition and BJP MLA Devendra Fadnavis said there is "lawlessness" in Maharashtra. "People can't even protest peacefully in Maharashtra. This is arrogance of power," Fadnavis said.

The Rana couple has lodged a police complaint against Uddhav Thackeray, Sanjay Raut and minister Anil Parab. The duo said if something happens to them, the trio would be responsible.

NGO to educate voters to choose wisely

Political and electoral reforms watchdog Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) is in Jharkhand to create voting awareness during the upcoming panchayat polls. The NGO along with various civil societies has decided to launch a massive voters' awareness campaign. Primarily, the ADR cadre along with civil society members will urge voters to pick those candidates who are active public affairs. The cadre will also urge voters to reject the selection of candidates on the basis of caste and religion. The NGO also held a workshop which was attended by members across the state. The ADR members were asked to visit across the state to create voting awareness.

MUKESH RANJAN
Our correspondent in Jharkhand
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RANCHI DIARY

57L families to benefit from dhoti-saree scheme

Along with providing additional ration to the BPL cardholders, the state government is also providing clothes at subsidised rates under the Sona-Sobran Dhoti Sari scheme. Lakhs of BPL card holders in the state will soon benefit from this scheme. The government has made a provision of `500 crore for the scheme. Under this scheme, beneficiaries are being given dhoti, lungi and sari for `10 twice a year. The government has set a target to benefit 57.11 lakh families of the state under the scheme and has been able to cover 56,49,817 eligible beneficiaries so far. The scheme was launched by the Hemant Soren-led JMM government in 2014.

Woman dies after stepping on IED of Maoists

A woman was killed in a blast after she stepped on a landmine planted by Maoists to annihilate security forces reaching their safe posts in the Bulbul jungles of Lohardaga. The woman, identified as Shakunti Devi, had gone there for picking mahua fruits. The blast is reported to have taken place on Friday, but the matter was came to light after the remains of the deceased was brought to the village on Saturday. This not being the first such incident, several villagers and security personnel have lost lives after stepping over the IEDs planted by Maoists in Lohardaga. Intensive search operations was launched by security forces in these forest tracts following the incident.

6 people were killed when Somalia's Islamic extremist rebels hit a popular seaside restaurant in Mogadishu

GLOBAL WEATHER

LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • SW: Snow • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	31	14	SNY	Los Angeles	23	13	SNY
Colombo	30	25	TDS	Melbourne	19	9	LC
Dhaka	35	27	SNY	Moscow	15	8	LC
Dubai	35	24	SNY	New York	16	10	LC
Houston	28	21	LC	Singapore	31	26	TDS
Istanbul	21	11	LC	Toronto	7	5	LR
London	17	9	LC	Washington	23	13	LC

Russian forces try to storm Mariupol steel plant, strike Odesa

●War enters its third month on Sunday with civilians continuing to pay a heavy price ● Nearly 5.2 million Ukrainians have fled the country since Russian invasion

KYIV

RUSSIAN forces in Ukraine tried to storm a steel plant housing soldiers and civilians in the southern city of Mariupol on Saturday while attempting to crush the last corner of resistance in a location of high symbolic and strategic value to Moscow, Ukrainian officials said.

The reported assault on the eve of Orthodox Easter came after the Kremlin claimed its military had seized all of Mariupol except for the Azovstal plant and as Russia's military pounded other cities and towns in southern and eastern Ukraine. Officials reported that Russia fired at least six cruise missiles at the Black Sea port city of Odesa, killing five people.

The fate of the Ukrainians holed up in the sprawling seaside steel mill wasn't immediately clear; earlier on Saturday, a Ukrainian military unit released a video reportedly taken two days earlier in which women and children holed up underground, some for as long as two months, said they longed to see the sun.

The building damaged in the Russian missile strike in Odesa on Saturday. The strike killed at least five people, including a baby, and wounded 18 others | AFP

"We want to see peaceful skies, we want to breathe in fresh air," one woman in the video said.

"You have simply no idea what it means for us to simply eat, drink some sweetened tea. For us, it is already happiness."

As the battle for shattered Mariupol ground on, Russia claimed it had taken control of several villages elsewhere in the eastern Donbas region and destroyed 11 military Ukrainian military targets overnight, including three artillery warehouses.

Journalists also observed shelling in residential areas of Kharkiv, Ukraine's second-largest city, and in Sloviansk, a town in northern Donbas. The AP witnessed two soldiers arriving at the town's hospital, one of them fatally wounded, while a small group of people gathered outside a church where a priest prayed and sprinkled them with water on Holy Saturday.

While British officials said the Russians hadn't gained significant new ground, Ukrainian officials announced a nationwide curfew ahead of Easter Sunday, a sign of the war's disruption and threat to the entire country.

Mariupol, a part of the industrial region in eastern Ukraine known as the Donbas, has been a key Russian objective since the Feb. 24 invasion began and has taken on outsize importance in the war. Completing its capture would give Russia its biggest victory yet, after a nearly two-month siege reduced much of the city to a smoking ruin and killed an estimated 20,000 people there.

> **People heard explosions in different areas. Residential buildings in Odesa were hit. It is already known about one victim. He was burned in his car** — IAnton Gerashchenko, an advisor to Ukraine's interior minister

Occupying Mariupol would deprive the Ukrainians of a vital port, free up Russian troops to fight elsewhere and allow Russia to create a land corridor with the Crimean Peninsula, which Moscow seized from Ukraine in 2014.

An advisor to Ukraine's presidential office, Oleksiy Arestovich, said during a Saturday briefing that Russian forces had resumed air strikes on the Azovstal plant and were trying to storm it. A direct attempt to take the plant would represent a reversal from an order Russian President Vladimir Putin gave two days earlier.

Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu reported to Putin on Thursday that the whole of Mariupol, with the exception of Azovstal, had been 'liberated' by the Russians. At the time, Putin ordered him not to send Russian troops into the plant but instead to block off the facility.

Ukrainian officials have estimated that about 2,000 of their troops are inside the plant along with the civilians sheltering in the facility's underground tunnels. Arestovic said the Ukrainian forces were trying to counter the new attacks.

Earlier on Saturday, the Azov Regiment of Ukraine's National Guard, which has members holed up in the plant, released the footage of around two dozen women and children. If authentic, it would be the first video testimony of what life has been like for civilians still trapped in bunkers. *AP*

Mariupol evacuation thwarted: City official

Kyiv: An attempted Ukrainian evacuation of civilians from the shattered city of Mariupol, where many remain trapped, was "thwarted" by Russian forces on Saturday, a city official said. "The evacuation was thwarted," Mariupol city official Petro Andryushchenko said on Telegram, adding that around 200 residents had gathered at the evacuation meeting point announced by Kyiv, but Russian forces "dispersed" them. He claimed others were told to board buses headed to Dukuchayevsk, about 80 kilometres (50 miles) north, which is controlled by Russia. "The people did not have the right to leave the bus," he said. Russian forces blamed "firing by (Ukrainian) nationalists at the evacuation point" for changing the destination, he added. *AFP*

President Joe Biden speaks to media aboard Air Force One | AP

Xi said Quad was against China: Biden

WASHINGTON

US President Joe Biden has said that his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping once told him that he was strengthening Quad against China.

China, which has territorial disputes with many countries in the strategic Indo-Pacific region, has been vehemently opposing the Quad alliance since its formation.

Biden, during a Democratic Party fundraiser event at a private residence in Seattle, said that he had indicated to Xi that he was going to pull together Australia, India, Japan and the United States to form the Quad.

"He said 'you're just doing that to affect us," and I replied 'no, it's because we're trying to put together those folks who have an opportunity to work together in the Indo-Pacific'," Biden said.

"The point being that one of the things that the autocrats fear the most — and India has its own problems; all those countries have their own problems — is the notion that somehow we can work together in concert and contrary to what are essentially dictatorships, which a lot of countries have become, particularly not only China but Russia and many other countries...the Philippines," he said. *PTI*

Lankan PM dismisses calls to form interim government

COLOMBO

SRI Lankan Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa on Saturday dismissed calls by protesters to form an interim government to tackle the unprecedented economic crisis in the country, saying such political formations have no use "when people with varying policies can't see eye to eye".

Thousands of demonstrators have hit the streets since April 9, as the government ran out of money for vital imports; prices of essential commodities have skyrocketed and there are acute shortages in fuel, medicines and electricity supply.

Speaking to Radio station 'Neth FM', the prime minister said: "What's the use of interim governments when people with varying policies can't see eye to eye? There has to be accord which is not possible. If there is a need for an interim government it should happen only under my leadership." Anti-government protesters in Sri Lanka are demanding the resignation of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa, Prime Minister Mahinda as they blame government policies for the forex crisis.

Commenting on the economic crisis, Rajapaksa, 77, said, "People need to show patience to face it (the economic crisis). They can keep on protesting if they don't want to have talks." Last week, the ruling dispensation reached out to the Opposition parties and protesters for talks, but all efforts were rebuffed as the agitators said they want the government to resign. The prime minister said he wasn't aware personally of anyone calling for his stepping down.

Meanwhile, India has agreed to extend an additional $500 million credit line to help Sri Lanka import fuel. India has already agreed to defer $1.5 billion in import payments that Sri Lanka needs to make to the Asian Clearing Union.

Sri Lanka needs at least $4 billion to tide over its mounting economic woes, and talks with World Bank as well as with China and Japan. *PTI*

> **What's the use of interim governments when people with varying policies can't see eye to eye? If there is a need for an interim government it should happen only under my leadership** — Mahinda Rajapaksa, Sri Lankan Prime Minister

ASIA MATTERS

MYANMAR

Anti-coup fighters threaten Chinese mines

Bangkok: Myanmar anti-coup rebels on Saturday threatened to attack Chinese-backed mines in the country's northwest if the projects are not shut down, saying the profits were lining the pockets of the junta. The Southeast Asian nation's economy has been in turmoil since a coup last February and a number of countries have imposed sanctions on Myanmar's military-linked businesses. Rebel groups calling themselves People's Defence Forces (PDF) have sprung up since the putsch to oppose the regime, with junta-linked companies a prime target. China's Wanbao Mining has a partnership with Myanmar military-owned conglomerate Myanma Economic Holdings to run the controversial Letpadaung and Sapetaung-Kyesintaung copper mines near Salingyi in the Sagaing region. But mining has faced disruptions because of fighting. *AFP*

NEPAL

US delegation calls on PM Deuba, discusses bilateral ties

Kathmandu: A US Congressional delegation led by Senator Kirsten Gillibrand paid a courtesy call on Nepal's Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba on Saturday and exchanged views on various aspects of bilateral relations, including on institutionalising democracy. The prime minister thanked the US Congress for its continued support to Nepal, specially during the difficult times of the 2015 earthquakes and Covid pandemic, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said in a statement. *PTI*

CHINA

Censors scrub viral video from online platforms

Beijing: A viral video showing the impact of the prolonged coronavirus lockdown on Shanghai's residents has been taken down by China's internet censors on Saturday, triggering an online backlash. About 25 million residents in Shanghai have been shut in their homes since early April. The city has struggled to provide fresh vegetables and other essentials to those in lockdown. These issues were chronicled in a six-minute video titled "Voice of April", which was widely shared on Weibo and WeChat -- major social media platforms in China. Internet censors battled for hours Saturday to scrub the video, as netizens kept uploading it into different cloud services. The swift censorship of the video — which was posted by an anonymous account — led to an online backlash. *AFP*

Boat with 26 aboard goes missing in north Japan

TOKYO

A TOUR boat with 26 people aboard was missing in rough waters off northern Japan on Saturday after issuing a distress call and reporting to be sinking, the coast guard said.

No survivors have been found after more than seven hours of an intense search involving six patrol boats and four aircraft.

The 19-tonne Kazu 1 made an emergency call in early afternoon, saying the ship's bow had flooded and was beginning to sink and tilt while it was traveling off the western coast of Shiretoko Peninsula in the northern island of Hokkaido, the coast guard said.

The tour boat has since lost contact, according to the coast guard.

It said the boat was carrying 24 passengers, including two children, and two crew.

An official of the vessel's operator, Shiretoko Pleasure Cruise, said he could not comment as he had to respond to calls from worried families of the passengers.

High waves and strong winds were observed in the area around noon, according to a local fisheries cooperative. Japanese media reports said fishing boats had returned to port before noon because of the bad weather.

The NHK public broadcaster said there was a warning for high waves of up to 3 metres high. *AP*

SITE OF RESURRECTION

Pilgrims hold candles as they gather during the ceremony of the Holy Fire at Church of the Holy Sepulchre, where many Christians believe Jesus was crucified, buried and rose from the dead, in Jerusalem on Saturday | AP/PTI

EXPRESS READ

Tribal violence kills eight in Sudan's Darfur

Cairo: Tribal violence between Arabs and non-Arabs in Sudan's war-ravaged Darfur region killed at least eight people, including a woman and a child, said an aid worker and activists on Saturday. The clashes erupted on Thursday with the killing of two people by an unknown assailant around the Kreinik area of West Darfur province, said Adam Regal, the spokesman for the General Coordination for Refugees and Displaced in Darfur charity. The following day, militias known as janjaweed attacked a camp for displaced people just to the south of Kreinik, burning down dozens of houses and forcing large numbers of people to flee. The violence, which lasted till late Friday, also wounded 16 others, including three in critical condition, he said. *AP*

FRENCH ELECTION

President Macron in pole position, Le Pen racing hard

PARIS

PRESIDENT Emmanuel Macron is in the pole position to win reelection on Sunday in France's presidential runoff, yet his lead over far-right rival Marine Le Pen depends on one major uncertainty: voters who decide to stay home.

A victory in Sunday's runoff vote would make Macron the first French president in 20 years to win a second term.

All opinion polls in recent days converge toward a victory for the 44-year-old pro-European centrist, yet the margin over his nationalist rival appears uncertain, varying from 6 to 15 percentage points, depending on the poll.

Polls also forecast a possibly record-high number of people who either vote blank or stay at home and don't vote at all in this second and final round.

French President Emmanuel Macron shakes hands with residents after a campaign rally in Figeac | AP

The April 10 first-round vote eliminated 10 other presidential candidates. Who becomes France's next leader will largely depend on what people who backed those losing candidates do on Sunday.

The question is a hard one, especially for leftist voters who dislike Macron but don't want to see Le Pen in power either.

A second term for Macron relies in part on their mobilisation, prompting the French leader to issue multiple appeals to leftist voters in recent days.

"Think about what British citizens were saying a few hours before Brexit or (people) in the United States before Trump's election happened: "I'm not going, what's the point?" I can tell you that they regretted it the next day," Macron warned this week on France 5 television.

"So if you want to avoid the unthinkable ... choose for yourself," he urged hesitant French voters. The two rivals both appeared combative in the final days before Sunday's election, including clashing Wednesday in a one-on-one televised debate.

Macron argued that the loan Le Pen's party received in 2014 from a Czech-Russian bank made her unsuitable to deal with Moscow amid its invasion of Ukraine.

He also said her plans to ban Muslim women in France from wearing headscarves in public would trigger 'civil war' in the country that has the largest Muslim population in Western Europe. "When someone explains to you that Islam equals Islamism equals terrorism equals a problem, that is clearly called the far-right," Macron declared on Friday. *AP*

Afghan militants strike Pak army post, kill 3

ISLAMABAD

MILITANTS in Afghanistan fired heavy weapons across the border into a Pakistani military outpost overnight, killing three personnel, the army said Saturday, in the latest violence to rattle the volatile region.

A firefight ensued with the militants firing toward the army post in Pakistan's North Waziristan region, and several were killed, the statement said. There was no immediate way to independently confirm details of the attack.

It comes as Afghanistan is reeling from a series of explosions in recent days, including the bombing of a mosque in northern Kunduz province on Friday that killed 33 people, including several students of an adjacent religious school or madrassa.

The striking increase in attacks in Afghanistan, as well as in neighbouring Pakistan, highlights the growing security challenge facing Afghanistan's Taliban rulers, who swept to power last August in the closing days of the chaotic withdrawal of American and NATO troops ending their 20-year war.

Even as their harsh religiously motivated edicts, which seemed reminiscent of their late 1990s rule, drew harsh criticism, their seemingly heavy-handed approach to security brought early expectations of improved safety. *AP*

20.4% growth seen by Indian Railways in its coal transportation in the 2021-22 financial year over the previous fiscal, the national transporter said on Saturday.

GURBIR SINGH

NEWSCOPE

REVOLUTIONIZING THE HEART OF THE ELECTRIC VEHICLE

THE bug to own an electric vehicle (EV) has caught on. Though the capital cost of an EV is nearly 30-40% higher than comparable internal combustion (ICE) model, the promise of saving on gasoline costs and contributing to a greener planet is an attractive proposition. As it is, the Tata Nexon EV has a waiting period of 6 months.

However, buyers are also learning there are serious downside issues, mainly the lack of charging and maintenance infrastructure. Those with independent homes have the luxury of installing a charging setup of their own; but when it's a community of apartments and common parking facilities, there are multiple challenges.

More recently, there have been serious safety concerns after there were a series of fire incidents in EV scooters. A popular manufacturer, Okinawa Autotech, acknowledging battery problems, has recalled a batch of 3,125 two-wheelers. Though EVs still have a long way to go, the volume is galloping. There are 12 models in the EV passenger car segment on offer and growing;and cumulative sales tripled to 14,800 units in 2021. EV two-wheelers are more popular, and current March figures show sales were just short of 50,000 units– a 4-fold rise from a year ago.

As is usual, policy and infrastructure support trails the commercial launch of products. After the EV fires, Union transport minister Nitin Gadkari has warned manufacturers of heavy penalties. An expert committee has also been set up, and will suggest remedial measures. Nudged by the confusion, the Niti Ayog has come up with a draft EV policy.

Battery-swapping policy

The draft policy is essentially focused on 'battery-swapping', which allows EV users to exchange discharged batteries for charged ones. This keeps vehicles running, and sidesteps charging as a delay factor. The battery, being at the heart of the EV system, the draft proposes to make it more affordable, the GST levy – currently pegged at a high of 18% – be brought down in line with other EV components that attract a rate of 5%. It also suggests setting up a network of swapping stations for batteries.

The swap arrangement is only workable with the smaller lithium-ion batteries and ,therefore, will be limited to two-wheelers or three-wheelers. The draft proposes GST benefits be extended to 'fixed' lithium-ion batteries too. It has also included safety measures on the agenda, and proposed a testing and certification process.

Considering the government has committed itself to doing away with the gasoline (ICE) engine by 2030, these efforts are not enough. A policy of making the EV cheaper and safer is required, along with building a network of charging and maintenance stations on a national scale. It is the government, in conjunction with the manufacturers, can achieve that scale. But will the legacy car makers allow it?

The lithium-sulphur option

It is therefore important that the hunt continues on how to make batteries cheaper and efficient. Then there are perception problems like 'range anxiety' – the fear of EV users that the battery may die on them in the middle of a ride. Though the lithium-ion packs are energy-dense, they are still quite heavy, large and clunky, making the EV inefficient. And as we have seen in recent cases of fire, the lithium-ion battery is a huge safety risk if it has a damaged cell. It can catch fire.

This search by scientists at the Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University, Philadelphia has come close to offering the lithium-sulphur battery as an alternative energy pack. Research showed the lithium-sulphur battery is environmentally safer, cheaper to produce, and more-energy dense, so maybe 3 times lighter than the traditional lithium-ion pack. The problem they encountered was it deteriorated quickly and died after 1-2 years.

This made it a commercial failure till the Drexel scientists began experimenting with changing the compounds in the battery's cathode to slow down the chemical reaction that creates polysulfides when the battery charges and discharges. These crystals effectively take sulphur out of the electrode and ultimately cause a loss of capacity. In the process they made a huge discovery. They found a chemical phase of sulphur that stops battery degradation. Though still in an experimental stage, the lithium-sulphur battery will weigh a third of the equivalent lithium-ion batteries and have twice their lifespan. These packs can revolutionize transportation and make short haul flights, and large sea-faring boats go totally electric.

Much of the inputs for these batteries are freely available and accessing them will not require deep mining and damage to the environment. As we await the transition from discovery to mass marketing, the lithium-sulphur battery may bring us that much closer to a world of net-zero emissions.

Metaverse: IT firms jump on the bandwagon to explore this space

While Infosys recently launched metaverse foundry, TCS said it is exploring the metaverse

UMA KANNAN

THE metaverse has become a buzzword in recent times and many information technology companies in India are exploring this exciting space. While IT company Infosys recently launched metaverse foundry, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) said it is exploring the metaverse.

Tech Mahindra is also leveraging opportunities in metaverse through various use cases including DealerVerse-metaverse-based car dealership, Middlemist-NFT marketplace, Meta Bank, a virtual bank and gaming centre.

Metaverse is one of the focus areas of Mindtree as its offering will enable customers to accelerate and optimise their transition into the meta economy. It will create more use cases for industry groups on metaverse.

What exactly is the metaverse since many companies are showing growing interest in it? It is a combination of technologies such as non-fungible tokens (NFT), crypto, 3D modelling, Augmented Reality (AR) and Virtual Reality (VR).

"A lot of these have come together to form the 'Metaverse Universe'. From being a fad, or one part of web3.0, metaverse is slated to become mainstream in the next 3-5 years. when it does, the first thing that will change is the fact that companies in order to either service their customers or be part of their value chain will have to adopt it as part of their offering," said Pankit Desai, cofounder & CEO, Sequretek, a cyber security company.

Infosys metaverse foundry will fast-track enterprises' exploration of the metaverse, including virtual and augmented environments for their customers, workplace, products and operations. The IT firm has created a set of assets that can help its clients.

Speaking about it, Salil Parekh, CEO of Infosys, said they are already in active discussions with several clients to see how they can use it. "In the manufacturing segment, our clients are considering how they can use this (metaverse) in terms of replicating actions on a factory floor or training or various areas. In retail, people are looking at the metaverse concept to demonstrate various aspects of their products to engage with the new customers who're more present in the metaverse," he said.

IT firms can provide their clients with in-built solutions that can span architecture, network capabilities and cloud infrastructure. Metaverse is like a universe and the construction, operation and maintenance of that is mainly an IT sector mandate, said Ambarish Ray, co-founder & CEO, Digital Dogs Content and Media.

Building blocks for meta

L&T Technology Services (LTTS), a subsidiary of Larsen & Toubro, has established a metaverse vertical within the company, and it is going to be headquartered in Chennai.

Already big companies such as Apple, Meta (Facebook) and Microsoft have invested a lot in the metaverse. In 2021, Meta is said to have spent $10 billion on the metaverse. In January this year, Microsoft acquired Activision Blizzard, a game developer for $68.7 bn, and it said this deal would provide building blocks for the metaverse.

Rajesh Gopinathan, CEO and MD, TCS said given the amount of investment that's going in, they are ready to participate. "Individually, we're participating in a few places with one of the largest telecom service providers in North America, and with a medical device manufacturer, helping them reimagine the approach to training of new medical devices. In fact, different use cases have been experimented with. And we are integrating our design studio capabilities with our digital capabilities and our knowledge of the domain to try and bring this together into the metaverse," he said.

CP Gurnani, MD & CEO, Tech Mahindra, said, "Metaverse has the power to disrupt our reality, as well as the future, for good."

The company would be training 1,000 engineers to ensure they are ready to solve complex business challenges and imagine new worlds for its customers and society.

Opportunities in metaverse

Apart from IT, metaverse will also bring advantages for celebrities and creators. It will bring together the community of creators by providing a means for the user to interact with virtual objects like never before.

"It is going to enhance the overall experience through high-quality interactions and increased sustainability. The digital real estate ecosystem has also become massively popular in the metaverse where brands and people are investing millions of dollars to buy land in the virtual world. The potential and the futuristic opportunities in the metaverse are way more than what we can actually imagine," said Abhay Aggarwal, founder & CEO of Colexion, a blockchain-based NFT marketplace.

According to Statista, the global metaverse market size stood at $38.85 billion in 2021, and it is expected to rise to $47.48 billion in 2022, and surge to $678.8 billion by 2030.

Talking about the future of metaverse, Pankit Desai said in the next 3-5 years, it will be a legitimate avenue and companies and consumers will spend time and money on it. "COVID accelerated the adoption of traditional offline technologies to the online platform. Medical consultations and analysis moved online, edtech became mainstream, and the consumption of games and OTT platforms got a huge boost. In the same way, we will see legitimate physical experiences move online into the metaverse universe," he added.

Since it provides a real-world experience, considering the multi trillion-dollar opportunity in the space, many firms are jumping on the bandwagon.

METAVERSE BOOM

The global metaverse revenue opportunity could approach **$800 bn** in 2024

The global metaverse market size is expected to reach **$1,607.12 bn in 2030** & register a revenue CAGR of 43.3%, according to Emergen Research

Infosys recently launched Metaverse Foundry, and has already developed over 100 use cases and templates

Tech Mahindra will train 1,000 engineers so that they can solve complex business challenges

Metaverse is slated to become mainstream in the next 3-5 years

LIC IPO: Govt to dilute 3.5% stake instead of 5% as planned earlier

MONIKA YADAV @ New Delhi

THE government is likely to dilute 3.5% stake instead of 5% as planned earlier in Life Insurance Corporation(LIC) through its listing, according to the government sources. It is hoping to garner ₹21,000 crore from this much-awaited initial public offering (IPO), likely to hit the floor in May first week.

"We are planning to sell 3.5% instead of 5% in LIC. The issue size would be of ₹21,000 crore," a source, privy to the matter told TNIE.

Currently, the Government of India holds 100% stake in LIC. Its valuation would be ₹6 lakh crore with 3.55 dilution, 1.1 times of its embedded value of ₹5.4 lakh crore. Embedded value is a measure of the consolidated shareholders value in an insurance company.

"LIC IPO is likely to come to the market in May first week. Its board met today to approve the issue size of ₹6 trillion with 3.55dilution. Reservations, discounts, issue dates and issue price will be known by Wednesday morning," the source added. Explaining why the government has decided to sell a smaller portion of the equity in the insurance behemoth, one of the sources said, "We can't take a risk of selling a larger share to the public as it would suck liquidity from the market. Situation is already very volatile in view of Russia-Ukraine crisis and resurgence of Covid cases in many parts of the country."

Notably, the government will have to file the fresh documents with the markets regulator the securities exchange board of India (SEBI), in case it fails to roll out the IPO before May 12.

The Finance Ministry had previously planned to launch the IPO of LIC by March this year but it had to postpone the roll-out on account of tensions between Russia and Ukraine.

EARNINGS

ICICI Bank's profit rises 59% on lower provisions

ICICI Bank posted a 59% jump in net profit at ₹7,019 crore in the fourth quarter of FY22, which was in line with analyst estimates, aided by sharply lower provisioning and improved asset quality.

The board has declared a dividend of ₹5 per share. The bank's net interest income — difference between interest earned and expenses — grew 21% year-on-year (yoy) to ₹12,605 crore. Net interest margin grew 16 basis points yoy and 4 bps sequentially to 4%.

The bank posted its results on Saturday. The ICICI bank share closed down 1.93% at ₹747.65 on Friday. Despite the healthy performance, stock performance on Monday is uncertain, given the 1,000 point overnight fall in the Dow Jones and the SGX Nifty, which traded 133 points below Friday's Nifty closing .

The bank's core operating profit, or profit before provisions and tax and excluding treasury income, rose 19% from the corresponding quarter of FY21 .

The profit was aided by a sharp yoy 63% decline in provisions (excl provision for tax) to ₹1,069 crore . The provision for Q4 included contingency provision of ₹1,025 crore made on a prudential basis .

Asset quality improved with net non performing assets declining 24% on year and 5% sequentially to Rs 6961 crore . Net NPA ratio declined to 0.76% from 0.85% sequentially . Gross NPA ratio (net of write offs) also declined to 3.6% from 4.13% sequentially.

EXPRESS READ

Tata Motors raises vehicle prices to offset impact of rising input cost

New Delhi: Tata Motors on Saturday said it has increased the prices of its passenger vehicles by average 1.1% with immediate effect. The price hike was across its passenger vehicles to offset the rise in input cost, the company said in a statement. Effective April 23, the weighted average increase is 1.1 per cent, depending on the variant and model, Tata Motors said. ENS

HDFC Bank declares 1,550% dividend for shareholders

New Delhi: HDFC Bank on Saturday declared a 1,550% or 15.50 per share dividend to its shareholders for the financial year 2021-22. The board at its meeting has recommended a dividend of ₹15.50 per equity share of Re 1 (1550%) out of the net profits for the year ended March 31, 2022, The bank said in a regulatory filing. This is subject to the approval of the shareholders. PTI

Business & Beyond

GRSE achieves another 'FIRST' on the eve of 63rd Raising Day

Kolkata: Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Limited (GRSE) celebrated its 63rdRaising Day on April 19, 2022. On the eve of its Raising Day,the leading warship builder in the country has achieved another significant milestone by undertaking docking of 110 metre longLarge Survey Vessel'Sandhayak' at Dock No 2 of its Rajabagan Dockyard (RBD) Unit. This feat has transformedRBD unitinto a full-fledged independent Yard to accomplish docking activities of similar largeships in the future to meet the maritime requirements on India's Eastern Seaboard and thereby reiterating the Shipyard's commitment to nation-building.

SER observes 131st birth anniversary of Dr. Ambedkar

The 131st Birth Anniversary of Bharat Ratna Dr. B. R. Ambedkar was observed at South Eastern Railway Headquarters, Garden Reach, this morning (18.04.2022). Archana Joshi, General Manager, South Eastern Railway garlanded the portrait of Dr.B.R.Ambedkar and paid homage to the illustrious son of India.

Bhagwant Mann hands over offer letters to 718 newly recruited officers/employees of PSTCL

Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann hands over appointment letters to 718 newly recruited officers/employees of PSTCL on the formation day of PSTCL. Addressing newly recruited officers/employees of Punjab State Transmission Corporation (PSTCL) at a function organized on the occasion of the foundation day of the PSTCL. Earlier Mann congratulating the recruits on PSTCL 's founders day exhorted the youth to come forward to contribute for rebuilding the state. Earlier, welcoming the Chief Minister and newly recruited officers and employees, the Power Minister Harbhajan Singh said that transmission capacity of PSTCL would be raised to 39588 in 2022.

Asian Games to go ahead in Hangzhou: Malaysian official

The 2022 Asian Games in China will go ahead, the Olympic Council of Malaysia said, denying claims that it was facing the possibility of being postponed. The event is scheduled to be held in September in Hangzhou, a major metropolitan area less than 200 kilometres southwest of Shanghai. Shanghai is grappling with a major coronavirus emergency, with its roughly 25 million residents currently in a weeks-long lockdown as authorities try to curb an Omicron-fuelled wave.

Big names seek big show at KIUG

ASHIM SUNAM @ Bengaluru

IT would not surprise anyone if ace swimmer Srihari Nataraj clinches a haul of gold medals in the upcoming Khelo India University Games (KIUG) in Bengaluru. Though he is only 21, he is an established swimmer and after having featured in top events across the world, such kind of competitions should be an easier task. In fact if the Jain University swimmer fails to dominate his events, that would grab headlines. The same can be said for India sprinter Dutee Chand, who will represent KIIT University in the second edition of the KIUG. Besides the duo, there are several big names like shooters Divyansh Singh Panwar and Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar, who featured at the Tokyo Olympics. Long jumper Jeswin Aldrin, archer Madhu Vedwan, shuttler Shikha Gautam are also relatively well known. So when these athletes turn out in their respective discipline, apart from showing their supremacy, they will also treat the KIUG as preparations for their upcoming big events.

DATES
APRIL 24 - MAY 3

Number of disciplines : 20 (Archery, athletics, badminton, basketball, boxing, fencing, football, field hockey, judo, kabaddi, shooting, swimming, tennis, table tennis, volleyball, weightlifting, wrestling, and karate. *Indigenous sports Mallakhamb and Yogasana introduced this year)*

NUMBER OF UNIVERSITIES
AROUND 190

Venues: Jain University Global Campus, JGI The Sports School, Sree Kanteerava Stadium, SAI National Centre of Excellence Bengaluru, Field Marshal KM Cariappa Hockey Stadium

257 GOLD MEDALS UP FOR GRABS

As for Srihari, who will compete in seven events, starting Monday, he knows the essence of time with the Asian Games and other big ticket events in 2022. "This is basically another senior nationals as many of the swimmers are going to be the same here too. This time, I want to win all the gold in events I compete for Jain. I will be doing my workout at Jain (University) itself in the morning even if it is my event day. Because of the big meets this year, I cannot afford to lose anytime. I am not too worried about my timings, but yes, it will be good to clock a good time. The main goal is to win the gold, no matter what," said Srihari, who will take the KIUG on behalf of the competing athletes in the opening ceremony on Sunday.

Likewise Dutee, after winning two gold medals in the first edition, also has her focus on the quadrennial events scheduled in 2022. She is set to feature in the 100m and the 200m.

"My major focus is definitely on the Asian Games and the Commonwealth Games, but whatever events are coming in between, I am trying to feature, like this KIUG in Bengaluru. I will also hope to improve upon my timings," she said. However, the Games is not only about the stars, but the second edition is also going to witness some upcoming athletes. For instance, Priya H Mohan from Karnataka has been making the right noise in the 400m events in the domestic circuit. Also long jumper Ancy Sojan has been doing the same.

MAGIC JANSEN COMES TO FORE

Sunrisers capitalise after pacer's 3 wickets in second over to post handsome win over RCB

MARTIN JOSEPH @ Kochi

COMING into this crucial game, even though Marco Jansen had provided Sunrisers Hyderabad's pace-heavy and potent attack an added dimension as they were turning their season around in style, wicket-taking wasn't something the South African was offering.

The 21-year-old had picked up only three wickets from four matches prior to Saturday, but all that changed as the left-arm pacer left Royal Challengers Bangalore on the mat with one devastating over that all but settled the contest in the second over of the match.

Both sides had momentum behind them when they came face to face at the Brabourne Stadium in Mumbai, but by the end of the night, it was a one-sided contest as Hyderabad blew Bangalore away with a nine-wicket victory. It was their fifth win on the trot while Bangalore was left with some big questions to answer.

As far as Sunrisers are concerned, there seems to be a certain clarity to their approach. Traditionally, bowling has been their strength and Kane Williamson had no hesitation in opting to bowl first after winning the toss.

After Bhuvneshwar Kumar bowled a tight and economical first over conceding just five runs, Jansen left the Bangalore top-order bamboozled with his movement, bounce and angled deliveries. His first victim was the RCB skipper Faf du Plessis whose off-stump was knocked over with only his second ball. After Faf's one-man rescue mission in the last game against Lucknow Super Giants, he was out for five.

Out walked Virat Kohli, who had the spotlight on him after a first-ball zero against Lucknow with Ravi Shastri even calling him 'over-cooked' and in need of a break.

After his second straight first ball dismissal, when he edged Jansen's ball straight to Aiden Markram at second slip, questions arise on whether the star batsman could actually do with a break.

Jansen wasn't done yet and Anuj Rawat was his next prey as the youngster had another forgettable outing with the southpaw jabbing the ball straight to Markram who was once again immaculate at second slip. With Jansen providing the perfect platform with an over that read 3 for three, Sunrisers sensed blood and went in for the kill.

Marco Jansen removed RCB's top-3 to set up win for SRH on Saturday | SPORTZPICS

T Natarajan choked RCB further as Glen Maxwell could only look on after a stunning catch for Williamson at mid-off as the Bengaluru outfit lost their top four inside five overs.

While pace has been the strength of Hyderabad, spinner Jagadeesha Suchith offered crucial breakthroughs by dismissing Suyash Prabhudessai and the dangerous Dinesh Karthik in the same over.

The bowlers firmly had their tails up and RCB never recovered from there. While Umran Malik was unplayable with his lethal pace, Natarajan finished with 3 for 10 including the dismissals of Harshal Patel and Wanindu Hasaranga, where their stumps going cartwheeling was a thing of beauty.

Abhishek Sharma made short work of the chase with a quickfire 47 off 28 balls as the victory helped Sunrisers improve their net run rate significantly as it was the perfect day in the office.

Brief scores: Royal Challengers Bangalore 68 in 16.1 overs (Natarajan 3/10, Jansen 3/25) **lost to** Sunrisers Hyderabad 72/1 in 8 overs (Abhishek 47).

Today's match: LSG vs MI @ Mumbai, 7:30 PM.

GUJARAT POST NARROW WIN OVER KOLKATA

MUMBAI: Andre Russell's pyrotechnics proved to be too little, too late in the end as Gujarat Titans defended a small total to clinch a dramatic eight-run win over Kolkata Knight Riders here. With 12 points already in its kitty, the Titans are looking good for a playoff berth. Chasing 157 for victory, KKR batters failed miserably in the wake of a clinical bowling display from the Titans with only Rinku Singh scoring 35 and it was left to Russell (48 off 25 balls) to go for a win and the West Indian nearly did it only to fail in the last over. **Brief scores:** GT 156/9 in 20 ov (Pandya 67, Miller 27, Russell 4/5, Southee 3/24) **bt** KKR 148/8 in 20 ovs (Russell 48, Rinku 35, Shami 2/20).

Ravi 1st Indian to bag 3 straight gold, silver for Bajrang

FIROZ MIRZA @Chennai

RAVI Dahiya (57kg), the 2020 Tokyo Olympics silver medallist, on Saturday, achieved yet another milestone as he became the first Indian wrestler to bag three consecutive gold medals at the Asian Championships. However, his compatriot Bajrang Punia (65kg) lost the final to settle with silver at the ongoing continental event in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

Overall, it turned out to be a remarkable day for the Indian freestyle wrestlers as they won medals in all the five categories (1 gold, 2 silver and as many bronze) they competed in. Gourav Baliyan (79kg) won his second silver of the tournament while Naveen (70kg) and Satyawart Kadian (97kg) bagged a bronze each. Notably, Naveen was making his first senior appearance at the international circuit.

Ravi was his usual dominant self winning all the three bouts with a big margin — two of them including the final by technical superiority.

Despite conceding early leads in his bouts, Ravi bounced back on each occasion to hand the country its first gold of the tournament. He defeated Japanese wrestler Rikuto Arai 15-4 in the quarterfinal before overpowering Zanabazar Zandanbud 12-5 on points to storm into the final. Kazakh wrestler Rakhat Kalzhan moved ahead with an early take-down in the final but Ravi responded strongly and effected six consecutive two-pointers to finish the bout early in the second period. Bajrang, on the contrary, looked rusty and was put on the clock in the final against Rahman Mousa Amouzadkhalili from Iran for passivity. He lost the title clash 3-1.

EXPRESS READ

Arsenal beat United, City win big

LONDON: Arsenal took control of the battle to finish in the Premier League top four with a 3-1 win over Manchester United to all but end the Red Devils' hopes of Champions League football next season. Nuno Tavares, Bukayo Saka and Granit Xhaka struck for Arsenal on Saturday. Manchester United are six points adrift of the top four and could miss out on European football next season. Gabriel Jesus scored four goals as Manchester City thrashed Watford 5-1 to open up a four-point lead in the title race.

Saturday's results: Arsenal **3-1** Manchester United; Leicester City **0-0** Aston Villa, Manchester City **5-1** Watford, Norwich City **0-3** Newcastle United.

Esports: Charanjot, Mayank set for Asiad

NEW DELHI: Charanjot Singh, one of India's star FIFA pros, and Street Fighter V athlete Mayank Prajapati produced good shows to secure themselves berth for the 2022 Asian Games after winning the titles at the Esports Federation of India's (ESFI) National Esports Championships 2022 (NESC '22) on Saturday.

WC: India compound men's team bags gold

ANTALYA: Indian men's compound archery team of Abhishek Verma, Rajat Chauhan and Aman Saini downed France by one-point in a thrilling final to win the gold medal at the World Cup Stage 1 here on Saturday. This was the men's compound team's first World Cup gold medal since Shanghai 2017.

IN THE COURT OF PRINCIPAL CIVIL JUDGE AND JMFCAT NELAMANGALA
C.Mis. 105/2022

BETWEEN: Sri. Chandrappa ... Petitioner
AND: THE TAHASILDAR, Chief Registrar of Births & Deaths, Nelamangala Taluk, Nelamangala. ... **Respondent**

PUBLIC NOTICE

The petitioner has filed petition under section 13(3) of Registration ofBirths and Deaths Act 1969, seeking direction to the respondent authority to issue the death certificate of **APPAYYA @ APPAYYANNA S/O LATE GIRIYAPPA** died on **03/03/1985** at Guruvanahally Village, Sompura Hobli, Nelamangala Taluk, Bangalore Rural District. The above said case is posted to **26th May 2022** for hearing on the said petition. That if any person persons desire to oppose the said petition or claim or interest shall appear before the Hon'ble court in person or by duly instructed pleader at 11 A.M. failing which the above said petition will be heard, disposed on enquiry.

Given under my hand & seal of the court on 20-04-2022.

By order of the Court, Chief Ministerial Officer, Court of the Civil Judge (Junior Division) and JMFC, Nelamangala.

Advocate for petitioner: **GANGARAJ .B**
Devanga Street, Nelamangala Town, Bangalore Rural District.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my client Smt.Nethravathi.S, wife of late B.Shivakumar, is said to have lost the Original Khatha Certificate bearing No: ಬೆಂ.ಅ.ಪ್ರಾ/ಕಂ.ಅ.ಪ.ವಿ/ವ.ಹ.1BHK-Krishna/A-202/2019-20, dated 28.05.2019, issued by the Bangalore Development Authority, pertaining to Property bearing Flat No.A-202, on the second floor of Krishna 'A' Block of the residential apartment complex, with a built up area of 34.46 Sq.meters and together with proportionate 34.46 Sq.meters undivided share, right, title and interest in the land bearing Sy.Nos.90/4, 90/3, 91/1A, 92/4, 92/5 of Valagerehalli Village, situated at Jnana Bharati Layout, 1st Block, 1st stage, Valagerehalli Village, Bengaluru. The general public is hereby informed that nobody shall deal with the aforesaid document and if any person having any claim or holding the aforesaid document may contact/handover the same to the undersigned within Seven (7) days from the date of this notice with documentary evidence, failing which it will be presumed that there are no claims.

H. Umashankar, Advocate
No.8, 80 ft Road, Chandra Layout, Bangalore-560040.

IN THE COURT OF THE LXXVI ADDL CITY CIVIL JUDGE (CCH-75) AT BENGALURU
P & SC NO: 25023/2022

BETWEEN

Petitioner 1. Raghu Venugopala S/o late V.L.Venugopala Aged about 82 years R/at:no.10, 4th Cross, Church Street, Near Ramdev medicals Horamavu, Bengaluru-560043.

2, Iyalanathy Venugopala D/o Raghu Venugopala Aged about 43 years R/at:no, 10, 4th cross, church street, Near Ramdev medicals Horamavu Bengaluru-560043.

Respondent NIL

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas the above named petitioners has made a petition to the Hon'ble court (CCH-75), Mayohall unit, under the section 372 of the Indian succession Act 1952, praying for issue of a succession Certificate in respect of the Schedule property as mentioned below, so left by the deceased Smt.Nandini Venugopala W/o Raghu Venugopala R/at:no.10, 4th cross, church street, Near Ramdev medicals Horamavu, Bengaluru-560043.

Be it known no caveat has been entered and the said petition is posted for hearing on 31st May 2022 at 11:00 am, persons claiming to have any interest may come and see the proceedings before the grant of succession certificate in favour of the above named petitioners.

SCHEDULE

1. SB18006650100022063
BANK OF BARODA, Rs.53,15,596.

Given under my hand and seal of this court on this 13th day of April 2022.

By order of Court
Sd/- Deputy Registrar,
City Civil Court, Bengaluru

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, the undersigned advocate on behalf of my clients **Smt.Gangamma & his daughter** have filed a petition for Death Certificate i.e., my client Smt.Gangamma's deceased husband i.e., **Muniyappa S/o Late Doddanangappa, died on 20.08.1978** at Venkatapura Village, Kundana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk. If any parties who have objections with regard to issue of Death Certificate can appear before the Hon'ble Addl Civil Judge and J.M.F.C Court **at Devanahalli 11.05.2022 at 11.00 A.M in C.Mis.No.119/2022.**

By Order of the Court, Sd/- Chief Ministerial Officer Civil Judge & JMFC Court, Devanahalli
M. Mahesh Das, Advocate

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, **RAVI VASUDEO WADHWANI S/o VASUDEO DAULATRAM WADWANI,** R/at G3, Sai Pujita Apartment, 2nd Cross, Whitefield Main Road, Whitefield, Bengaluru-560 066, intending to purchase the Schedule Property (herein referred as PURCHASER);

And his seller viz., **SRIRAMNENI VIDYASAGAR,** C/o 2422, Sriramneni, 8th Main, Banashankari 2nd Stage, Bengaluru-560 070, he is intending to sell the schedule property to the Purchaser (herein referred as **SELLER**). Both the parties given the consent for the negotiation of the schedule immovable property more fully described in the schedule hereunder. Any person/s having any claim, right, title, interest, pending litigation, demand or objections of any nature to the aforesaid transaction in respect of the Schedule Property or any part thereof may lodge his/their claim/objections, with the undersigned in writing together with all details of such right, title, interest/s, claim/s, pending litigation or demand made together with supporting documents within a period of 7 (seven) days from the date of publication of this Public Notice. Objections/Claims received after the aforesaid time will not be considered and our clients will proceed to procure conveyance of the Schedule Property as if there are no claims/ objections whatsoever.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF THE immovable residential property bearing present BBMP No. 402/365/7, old plot/site No.7, formed out of Sy.No.61, Old Khatha No. 438, (duly converted from Agricultural to Non-Agricultural Residential purpose), already constructed house building plot comes under the BBMP Zone, situated at Ward No.84, Hagadooru, Krishnarajapura Hobli-3, Whitefield, measurement: 8448 Sq.Feet, out of that 3000 Sq.ft., of built-up area with right of easement, appurtenances either latent patent attached to the schedule property, and bounded on the **East by:** Part of Survey No.61, **West by:** Plot No.6, **North by:** Property bearing Survey No.61, **South by:** Outer Circle Road.

B.K. VENKATESH, Advocate

CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICE

LOST

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client, Mr. Raghuram BVS, has instructed me to cause this public notice to bring to the notice of general public that the originacl document being sale deed registered as document no 921/95-96 book 1 date 20/05/-1995, registered in the office of sub registrar is lost. In this regard my client has lodged e-complaint with the jurisdictional police as per lost report no 0207107/2022 dated 21/04/2022. The public in general are hereby notified that in the event the document were to be traced, the same may be handed over to the custody of the undersigned. Contact: Mr. M. S. Narayan, No 18, Anayappa Road, 1st Cross, KPW Ext. Bangalore - 560022, Mob: 9741127474

grooms

Catholic Adi Dravida Bride M. Tech(CSE),24yrs,154cm,CAPGEMINI Employee[Chennai].Parents seek suitable groom from similar Professionals[BE,ME,MCA]. Interested can contact with details & photos 9999143474/ras_sugi@yahoo.com
CL00536668

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby informed that my clients intend to purchase property described in Schedule below from **Smt. Akkayyamma** w/o Munishamappa who has represented that she is the absolute owner in possession and that the property is free from any encumbrance/s, charge/s, claim/s, demand/s or litigation/s.

Person/s claiming any right, title or interest in or upon the Schedule Property and / or having any objection to the sale transaction, may lodge their objection/s supported by documents with the undersigned within **Fifteen (15) days** from the date of publication of this notice. If no objection/s is/are received within the said period, my clients will go ahead with the transaction deeming that there is / are no claim/s or objection/s to the same.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of land totally measuring 1 acre 23 guntas in **Sy.No. 49/4** (Old Sy.No.49/1) of **Ilthore Village, Kundana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District** and bounded on:
East : Jogihalli Village Gadi and Road
West : Sy.No.50
North : Sy. No.48
South : Sy.No.49/1

Smita Singh, Advocate,
827, 12th Main, IV Block, HBR Layout, Bengaluru - 560 043,
Email: smitasinghadvocate@gmail.com
Place : Bangalore **Date : 24.04.2022**

BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL - I OF KARNATAKA, LIC BUILDING, 1st FLOOR, RESIDENCY ROAD. AT BENGALURU.

O.A.No.232/2020.

BETWEEN:
CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA. KODIGEHALLI BRANCH. BENGALURU ...**APPLICANT BANK**
AND
M/s. SOUTHERN ASSOCIATES ...**DEFENDANT.**

SUMMONS BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION UNDER RULE 23 (VIII)

To.
M/S. SOUTHERN ASSOCIATES, REP BY ITS PROP: PURUSHOTTAM V., NO.34, 4TH CROSS, APC LAYOUT, THINDLU, BENGALURU-560097 ...**DEFENDANT**

1. Whereas the Applicant Bank has instituted an application U/s.19 of The Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 against you for the recovery of sum of **Rs.89,85,027/-** (Rupees Eighty Nine Lakhs Eighty Five Thousands Twenty Seven only) mentioned therein together with current and future interest and other reliefs. You are hereby summoned to appear and file written statement before this Tribunal at 10.30 AM or at such time immediately thereafter according to the convenience of the Tribunal on **24/06/2022** to answer the claim.

2. A copy of the application and copies of the annexures can be collected upon your appearance.

3. If you intend to file any documents, you may file the same with a list along with the written statement.

4. You should file your registered address and a memo of appearance when you enter appearance before the Tribunal either in person or by a pleader/ Advocate duly instructed.

5. Take notice that, in default of your appearance on the day mentioned herein before, the proceeding will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Tribunal on this the **30th Day of March 2022**.

Sd/- Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal - I

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public is hereby informed that my client Mr. Srinivasan S/o. N. Nanjappa, aged about 39 years, residing at No. 1A-108, the Tree by Provident Apartment, 2nd Main Road, Syndicate Bank Layout, Herohalli, Bangalore- 91, intends to purchase the residential site bearing No. 119, intermediate, situated in Herohalli village, Yeshwanthpura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore District, private layout formed by "Syndicate Bank Employees Housing Co-Operative Society Ltd", measuring East to West 60 feet, North to South 40 feet, bounded by: East by Road, West by site No. 136, North by Site No. 118, South by Site No.120 from his vendor Smt. Sunayana, W/o. Harish Varthak, aged about 61 years, presently residing at No. 1504, Pasific A, Raheja Water Funt, Chitrapur Road, Mangalore, Dakshina Kannada-575019. In case any person has any right, title, interest, claim of whatsoever nature by way of sale, gift, lease, heirship, possession or by any other nature in respect of aforesaid property, the same should be known in writing to me at the address mentioned below with the documentary proof within 14 days from the date hereof, failing which it shall be construed that such claim is waived, abandoned.

Sd/- VNN ASSOCIATES, Advocates
No.20, 1st Floor, Above HDFC Bank, 5th Cross, 5th Main, Gandhinagar, Bangalore - 560009.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My clients have agreed to Purchase the Immovable Property being the Agriculture land measuring 1 Acre 31 1/2 Guntas out of 2 acres 07 Guntas comprised in Survey No.269/2, situated in Idagur Village, Kasaba Hobli, Gowribidanur, bounded as per old documents **East by :** Mud Road, **West by :** Land belonging to Gangadharappa, **North by :** Road, **South by :** Land belonging to Ranagappa, from the present Lawful owner **Mrs. NIRMALA A., Wife of NAGRAJA S, (Adhaar No. 839881828773)** residing at Sadashiva Badavane, Hirebidanur, Gauribidanur, Chikkaballapur District, Kasaba Hobli, Chikanayakanahalli, Karnataka-561208 who has purchased the same under Sale deed dated 21/12/2013, registered as No. 4842 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Gauribidanur.

The Owner represents that she is sole and absolute owner of the said property, and the property is free from all Encumbrance, charges, liens or any claim whatsoever. Any person or persons having/asserting any right, title or interest by way of sale, exchange, lease, claims, tenancy, license, assignment, mortgage, charge, lien, trust, family arrangement/settlement, minor claims, encumbrances, inheritance, bequest, easement, revenue proceeding, possession, maintenance, development rights, sale agreement rights, order/decree/judgement of any Court or otherwise however or intending to oppose in any manner may file their objections to the undersigned within **SEVEN DAYS** from the date of publication of notice hereof with documentary proof where after no such claims will be entertained and my clients will proceed with the purchase of the said property on the basis of the available documents.

SYED TANVEER AHMED, Advocate,
No. 14, Wellington Street, Richmond Town, Bangalore – 560 025

IN THE COURT OF ADDITIONAL CIVIL JUDGE AND JMFCAT NELAMANGALA
C. Mis. 104/2022

BETWEEN: Smt. Thimmakka ... Petitioner
AND: THE TAHASILDAR, Chief Registrar of Births & Deaths, Nelamangala Taluk, Nelamangala. ... **Respondent**

PUBLIC NOTICE

The petitioner has filed petition under section 13(3) of Registration ofBirths and Deaths Act 1969, seeking direction to the respondent authority to issue the death certificate of **MAHIMAKKA W/O BETTAIAH** died on **10/03/1970** at Mahimapura Village, Thyamagondlu Hobli, Nelamangala Taluk, Bangalore Rural District. The above said case is posted to **12th May 2022** for hearing on the said petition. That if any person persons desire to oppose the said petition or claim or interest shall appear before the Hon'ble court in person or by duly instructed pleader at 11 A.M. failing which the above said petition will be heard, disposed on enquiry.

Given under my hand & seal of the court on 20-04-2022.

By order of the Court, Chief Ministerial Officer, Court of the Civil Judge (Junior Division) and JMFC, Nelamangala.

Advocate for petitioner: **GANGARAJ .B**
Devanga Street, Nelamangala Town, Bangalore Rural District.

PUBLIC NOTICE

General public are hereby notified that **M/s. VDB Property Ventures Private Limited,** having its registered office at 3rd Floor, No. 42, Castle Street, Ashok Nagar, Bangalore 560 025 had earlier entered into a Joint Development Agreement dated 07.04.2021 and General Power of Attorney dated 07.04.2021 in respect of the Schedule Properties mentioned below with M/s. Avon Township Developers having its registered office at Ground Floor, Cosmos Calista Apt., 9th Main, NRI Layout, Kalkere, Bengaluru 560 043. M/s. VDB Property Ventures Private Limited has terminated the Joint Development Agreement dated 07.04.2021 and General Power of Attorney dated 07.04.2021 by way of a notice dated 19.04.2022.

Be notified that by virtue of the termination of JDA and GPA, effective 19.04.2022, M/s. Avon Township Developers does not have any right, title or authority to sell, alienate, encumber or otherwise deal with or create third party rights in respect of the Schedule Properties.

In addition, M/s. VDB Property Ventures Private Limited has also instituted legal proceedings against M/s. Avon Township Developers in respect of the Schedule Properties and the same is pending adjudication.

Any person dealing or transacting with M/s. Avon Township Developers in respect of any plot, site or portion of the Schedule Properties may kindly make note of the termination of the JDA and GPA and any person who transacts or enters into any agreement or arrangement with M/s. Avon Township Developers pertaining to Schedule Property shall be doing so at their own risk and peril.

SCHEDULE PROPERTIES

1) All that piece and parcel of residentially converted (vide conversion Order No. ALN (EKHW) CR 37/11-12 dated 17.08.2011 issued by Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District) undeveloped **land bearing Sy.No.28, situated at Whitefield Village, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk**, measuring 1 Acre 37 Guntas, bounded on:
East : Sy.Nos.19, 25, 26 & 27, **West:** Tank bund, **North:** Sy.No.29, **South:** Sy.No.19.

2) All that piece and parcel of residentially converted (vide conversion Order No. ALN (EKHW) CR 39/11-12 dated 17.08.2011 issued by Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District) undeveloped **land bearing Sy.No.32/1, situated at Whitefield Village, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk**, measuring 1 Acre 07 Guntas, bounded on: **East:** Sy.Nos.24 & 32/2, **West:** Sy.No.34 **North:** Sy.No. 32/2 & 33, **South:** Sy.No.31 & 35

3) All that piece and parcel of residentially converted (bearing No.ADLR.B.S.ALN-10/1981-82 dated 11.11.1981, issued by Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District), undeveloped **land bearing Sy.No.32/2, situated at Whitefield Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk,** measuring 0-12 Guntas, bounded on: **East:** Sy.No. 24, **West:** Sy.No.32/1, **North:** Sy.No.33, **South:** Sy. No.32/1.

Sd/-
M/s. VDB Property Ventures Pvt Ltd

PUBLIC NOTICE

My Client is negotiating to purchase residential vacant site BDA No. 147, in a Layout formed by The Shanthinagar House Building Co Operative Society Ltd., carved out of Sy. No. 6 situated at Srinivagilu Amanikere, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore measuring East to West 60 ft. and North to South 100 ft. in all measuring 6,000 Sq. ft. Bounded on **East By:** Site No. 146, **West By:** Site No. 148, **North By:** Pathway, **South By:** Road.

from Mrs. K. M. Lakshmi, W/o. Mr. G. Prasad Reddy, aged about 56 years, residing at No. 392, 13th Main, 2nd Cross, 3rd Block, Koramangala, Bangalore -560 034.

Any person having any right, title, interest and claim whatsoever in and over the Schedule property or any liability, may lodge their claims/ objections with documentary proof with the undersigned within 7 days from the date of publication of this Notice, otherwise my client shall proceed to complete the Sale transaction as if there are no subsisting claims or objections and that all such claims or objections not filed in time shall be deemed / presumed to have been waived and shall not be binding on my client.

Sd/- **B.B. Umadevi,** Advocate
No. 715, 1st 'C' Main, 8th Block, 8th Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore–70. Mob. 9343281627
Dated: 23rd April 2022.

IN THE COURT OF PRINCIPAL CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE, COMMERCIAL COURT, AT BANGALORE (CCH-84)

COM.O.S.No.79/2021

BETWEEN
HDFC LIMITED.,
Having its Registered Office at Ramon House, H.T. Parek Marg, 169 Backbay Reclamation, Church Gate, Mumbai-400 020,
Having its Branch Office at HDFC House' No. 51, Kasturba Road, Bengaluru-560001.
Rep. by its Officer and Power of Attorney Holder : Mr. Sridhar Chinni ....Plaintiff
AND
Mr. Shahid Khan and Others ...Defendants

To,
1. M/s Value Design Build Pvt.Ltd.,
A Company incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 Having its Office at No. 14, 3rd Phase, 2nd Stage, Domlur, Bengaluru - 560038.
Also at : M/s Value Design Build Pvt.Ltd., Villa No.4A, NUSA DUA, Sy. No. 33/P, 34/P, 36/P, 37/P, R. Narayanapura Road, Whitefield Village, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, Bangalore - 560036.
Represented by its Managing Director Mr. KoshyVarghese.

Whereas, the above named Plaintiff has filed a Civil Suit for Recovery of a sum of **Rs.73,00,209/- (Rupees Seventy Three Lakhs Two Hundred Nine Only) under Loan A/c No. 610323954** together with future interest @ 10.50% p.a. together with additional interest @ 18% p.a. in Commercial **O.S. No. 79/2021** and the same is pending adjudication in Court Hall No. 84, Before LXXXIX Addl., City Civil and Sessions Judge, Commercial Court, Bengaluru.

You are hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble Court on the **25th Day of May 2022 at 11 AM**, to answer the same, if failed the suit will be decided in your absence, exparte.

Given under my hand and seal of this court this the **20th Day of April 2022.**

Sheristedar
City Civil Court
Bengaluru

FX & CO.,
Advocates,
New No.9, Old No.11/1, Gover Road, Cox Town, Bengaluru - 560005.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that my client **Sri. ANIL KUMAR CHHIKARA,** aged about 56 years, Son of DILBAGH SINGH CHHIKARA, Residing at FLAT NO.F-002, VICTORIAN HAVEN, RAMA PATEL REDDY ROAD, DOMLUR ROAD, BENGALURU-560071, KARNATAKA, AADHAAR : 4795-8826-1753, MOBILE : 9845205530, have lost the Original Property Documents of the Schedule Property, which are as follows : **1)** Registered DEED OF SALE vide document Number : MYN-1-20402-2010-11, in BOOK-1, STORED in C.D. Number : MYND264 Registered on dated : 09/02/2011, Registered before the Sub-Registrar of MYSORE NORTH, MYSORE, executed by Sri. KAVERAPPA.K.C. and Others in favour of my Client **2)** KHATHA CERTIFICATE with SITE TAX / REVENUE CERTIFICATE bearing Number : 137, Page : 35, Book-01, issued on : 17/03/2012, issued by Special Tahsildar, Mysore Urban Development Authority, Mysore, issued in the name of my Client. **3)** CHALLAN in Three Originals for payment of Tax / Revenue, vide Challan Numbers : i) 89077 DATED : 17/03/2012, ii) 210885 DATED : 18/07/2016 and iii) 249376 DATED : 16/06/2017, issued by For Commissioner, Administration Section of Mysore Urban Development Authority, Mysore, issued in the name of my Client and subsequently my Client have lodged / filed have filed complaint before the Karnataka State Police on 17/04/2022 in Serial No. 203477 as Lost Report No. 0203477/2022. If any person/s find the said original documents shall handover to the undersigned Advocate or any person/s having any right, title, interest, claim and ownership over Schedule Property, the same may be informed to the undersigned Advocate, in person, along with the documentary proof, within 07 days from the date of this publication, failing which, it is presumed that my client is at liberty to deal with the same in any manner as he deems fit and for his future transactions / dealings in respect of the Schedule Property, the Certified Copies of the above said documents shall be considered as absolute title deeds. Any claim made after the stipulated period, will not be valid and the finder will be suitable rewarded on return of the original documents.

SCHEDULE
(DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY)

All that piece and parcel of the Immovable Property bearing PLOT / SITE NUMBER : 35, CARVED OUT OF RESIDENTIAL CONVERTED LAND BEARING SURVEY NUMBERS : 61 & 58 situated at DADADAHALLI VILLAGE, JAYAPURA HOBLI, MYSORE TALUK, MYSORE, measuring EAST TO WEST : 18.01 METERS (59.08 FEET) and NORTH TO SOUTH : 11.99 METERS (39.33 FEET), totally measuring 215.85 SQUARE METERS (2324 SQUARE FEET) and bounded on **EAST BY**: SITE NO.16, **WEST BY:** ROAD, **NORTH BY:** SITE NO.36, **SOUTH BY:** SITE NO.34.

Sd/- **M. SOMESHWARAIAH,** ADVOCATE
No. 483, 1ST STAGE, 6TH PHASE, 60 FEET ROAD, W.O.C ROAD, RAJAJINAGAR, BENGALURU-560010. Mobile No. 9880928919 Date: 22/04/2022

Chola Enter a better life
CHOLAMANDALAM INVESTMENT AND FINANCE COMPANY LIMITED
Corporate Office: 1st Floor, 'Dare House', No.2, N.S.C. Bose Road, Chennai-600001.
Branch Office: Municipal No.45, (Old Nos. 45& 45/1), Second Floor, Lalbagh Road, Bangalore-560027.

POSSESSION NOTICE [Under Rule 8 (1)]

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of **M/s. Cholamandalam Investment And Finance Company Limited,** under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 hereinafter called the Act and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13[12] read with Rules 9 of the Security Interest [Enforcement] Rules, 2002 issued demand notices calling upon the borrowers, whose names have been indicated in Column [B] below on dates specified in Column [C] to repay the outstanding amount indicated in Column [D] below with interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers in particular and the Public in general that the undersigned has **taken possession** of the properties mortgaged with the Company described herein below of the Columns on the respective dates mentioned in Column [E] in exercise of the powers conferred on him under Section 13[4] of the Act read with Rule 9 of the Rules made there under.

The borrowers in particular and the Public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties mentioned below and any such dealings will be subject to the charge of **M/s. Cholamandalam Investment And Finance Company Limited** for an amount mentioned in Column [D] along with interest and other charges.

Under section 13 [8] of the Securitisation Act, the borrowers can redeem the secured asset by payment of the entire outstanding including all costs, charges and expenses before notification of sale.

Sl. No. [A]	Name And Address of Borrower & Loan Account Number [B]	Date of Demand Notice [C]	Outstanding Amount [D]	Date of Possession [E]
1	(Loan Account No. X0HEBAN00001415017), 1) Shylaja S., Residing at: 402, Nandana Green Appartment, Someswara Layout, Shanthi Nekethan School, Bengaluru-560076. 2) Vinay Kumar, Residing at: 402, Nandana Green Appartment, Someswara Layout, Shanthi Nekethan School, Bengaluru-560076.	07-06-2021	Rs. 57,77,224.50/- as on 05-06-2021 with interest thereon	20-04-2022 Physical

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY: SCHEDULE-A PROPERTY:

Item No.I: All that piece and parcel of bearing flat No.009 Ground Floor 3 BHK Having Super Buildup area 1415 Sq.ft., along with 425 Sq.ft., undivided share in the property bearing Sy.No:32/5 and 32/3 and 32/4 Khatha No:982/1178 /1072/32/3,4,5 situated at : Bilekahalli Village, Veguhobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore and presently within limits of BBMP **and bounded on: East by:** property of Sri. Muthappa, **West by:** Property of Sri. Chikka Arasappa, **North by:** Property of Sri. Chikka Arasappa, **South by:** Property of Sri. Anjanappa.

Item No.II: All that piece and parcel of bearing flat No.010 Ground Floor 2 BHK Having Super Buildup area 1120 Sq.ft., along with 336 Sq.ft., undivided share in the property bearing Sy.No:32/5 and 32/3 and 32/4 Khatha No:982/1178/ 1072/32/3,4,5 situated at : Bilekahalli Village, Veguhobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore and presently within limits of BBMP **and bounded on: East by:** property of Sri. Muthappa, **West by:** Property of Sri. Chikka Arasappa, **North by:** Property of Sri. Chikka Arasappa, **South by:** Property of Sri. Anjanappa. within the Registration district of Bangalore and Sub Registration office.

Date: 24-04-2022 Sd/- Authorised Officer
Place: Bangalore M/s. Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company Limited

In loving memory of

A S AROCKIAM SAMY

March 02, 1928 - April 18, 2021

May the winds of heaven blow softly and whisper in your ear. How much we love and miss you, and wish that you were here.

Beloved Family

In loving memory of

ALICE MARY A

July 02, 1958 - April 22, 2021

May the winds of heaven blow softly and whisper in your ear. How much we love and miss you, and wish that you were here.

Beloved Family

In loving memory of

R. Williams

Oct. 12, 1949 - April 26, 2021

May the winds of heaven blow softly and whisper in your ear. How much we love and miss you, and wish that you were here.

Beloved Family

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that, my client viz. **M/s. A.V.R. Associates,** having office at No.5 & 6, Yelahanka Bypass Road, Gandhinagar, K.H.B. Colony, Yelahanka Old Town, Bengaluru - 560 064, represented by its partners Y.S. Bhaskar Reddy and Sri Rajesh Singh being the sister concern of M/s. Uday Kumar Marketing, entered into an registered agreement of sale on 23/04/2021 which is registered as document No. DNH-1-00962-2021-22, Book-1, stored in CD No. DNHD.1265 in the office of the Senior Sub-Registrar, Devanahalli, in respect of the below mentioned properties with Sri Pradeep S Wodeyar, S/o. S.S. Wodeyar, resident of No.25, 1st Main Road, Dwarakanagar (Maruthinagar), Behind Skyline Apartments, Chandra Layout, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru - 560 040, by reducing certain terms and conditions stipulated therein.

In pursuance of the above, now my client is intending to get the registered sale deed in respect of the below mentioned schedule properties in terms of the aforesaid registered agreement of sale. Hence, I request the public that if there is any claim from anybody in respect of the schedule property may raise the objection within **14 days** from the date of this public notice. If inspite of this public notice, if anybody has not raised any objection for the same, my client is prepared to get the sale deed in terms of the agreement of sale.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Sy.No.391/2P2, (old Sy.No.391/2) measuring 1 acre 19 guntas and Sy.No.391/3, measuring 1 acre 19 guntas in all measuring 2 acres 38 guntas, both the lands are adjacent to each other situated Devanahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District, and the same is having common boundaries and bounded on the;

East by : land bearing Sy.No.392/5 belongs to Sri Pradeep Wodeyar
West by : land bearing Sy.No.368
North by : land bearing Sy.No.391/1 belongs to Sri Pradeep Wodeyar
South by : land bearing Sy.No.397

J. NARAYANA REDDY, Advocate & Consultant
No. 28/1, 1st Main, 15th Cross, "E" Block, Behind Swathi Hotel, Sahakaranagar, Bengaluru - 560 092 Mobile : 9980940200
Date: 22/04/2022 e-mail: nreddycj@gmail.com

MAHILA CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD.,

Head Office: at No.14, South End Road, Sheshadripuram, Bengaluru-560020,

POSSESSION NOTICE

Possession of Immovable Properties U/S 13(4) of SARFAESI Act 2002 r/w Rule 8(1)

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of **Mahila Co-operative Bank Ltd.,** having its Head Office at No.14, South End Road, Sheshadripuram, Bengaluru-560020, under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the power conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 has issued a Demand Notices calling upon the Borrowers / Mortgagors / Guarantors to repay the amount mentioned In the notice within **60 days** from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrowers / Mortgagors / Guarantors having failed to repay the amount, Notice is hereby given to the Borrowers / Guarantor / Mortgagors and the Public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 said Rules.

The Borrowers / Mortgagors / Guarantors in particular and the Public in General are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charges of the **Mahila Co-operative Bank Ltd.,** for an amount interest and Other Charges mentioned below.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

1. Name and Address of the Borrower / Co-Borrower / Mortgagor / Guarantor :Smt. Lalitha.L, W/o Srinivas, No.89(4), Near Inleather Garments, Tigalarapalya, Karivobanahalli, Bengaluru-560091. **Guarantors:1) Smt.Neelamma,** W/o P Lakshmana, No.89(4), Near Inleather, Garments, Tigalarapalya, Karivobanahalli, Bengaluru-560091. **2) Sri.Gangadhar,** S/o P.Lakshmana, No.89(4), Near Inleather Garments, Tigalarapalya, Karivobanahalli, Bengaluru-560091.
A/c No: IPL- 412, Amount Outstanding as per Demand Notice: Rs.56,89,390/- (Rupees Fifty Six Lakhs Eighty Nine Thousand Three Hundred Ninety Only) as on **03.02.2022,** plus further interest and other charges.
Total amount mentioned in the Possession notice : Rs.56,89,390/- with further interest and other charges from **03.02.2022.**
Demand Notice Dated : 04.02.2022, Possession Notice Date: 20.04.2022
Description of the Immovable Property: All that piece and parcel of Immovable property being land with residential building bearing Corporation No.4, Assessment No.89. Khata No.89, BBMP Khata 256/151, Karivobanahalli(Thigalarapalya) Village, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk, Bengaluru, Measuring East to West 28'-5" fts and North to South 34'-0" fts, having a total extent of 969 square feets and bounded on the: East by : Others Property, West by :30 Feet Road, North by : Property No.3, South by : Property No.5.

2. Name and Address of the Borrower / Co-Borrower / Mortgagor / Guarantor :1.Smt.Suvarna, W/o Late R.Seetharam, **2) Santhosh Kumar S,** Since Deseased, to by Legal Heir and also the surety, **Smt.Sharvani Santhosh,** Both are resident at: No.899, 16th Main Road, 9th Cross, (BTM EWS) BTM 2nd Stage, Bangalore-560076. **3) Smt.Shilpa S,** W/o Prashanth K, **4) Smt.Shantha.S**, W/o Prasad K Both 3 and 4 Resident at: No.1143/47, F6, 2nd Cross, 4th Main Road, Vidhyaranyapura, Mysore. **Guarantor: 1.Smt.Sharvani Santhosh,** W/o Santhosh Kumar S, (Also the legal heir of Santhosh Kumar. S) No,899, 16th Main Road, 9th Cross, (BTM EWS) BTM 2nd Stage, Bangalore-560076.
A/c No: IPL- EMI-295, Amount Outstanding as per Demand Notice: Rs.59,06,964/- (Rupees Fifty Nine Lakhs Six Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixty Four only) as on **05.02.2022,** plus further interest and other charges.
Total amount mentioned in the Possession notice: Rs.59,06,964/- with further interest and other charges from **06.02.2022.**
Demand Notice Dated : 05.02.2022, Possession Notice Date: 21.04.2022
Description of the Immovable Property: All that piece and parcel of Immovable property being land with residential building bearing No.899. PID No. 65-51-899, Rashtra kavi Kuvempu Nagara, BTM Layout (BTM EWS) formed by BDA, BBMP Ward No.65, Bengaluru, Measuring East to West 7-0 Mts and North to South 8-0 Mts, having a total extent of 602.75 square feets and bounded on the: East by : Private No.898, West by :Private No.900, North by : Private No.924, South by : Road.

3. Name and Address of the Borrower / Co-Borrower / Mortgagor / Guarantor :1) Smt.Radhamma, W/o Late M.Revanna, **2) Sri R.Chethan** S/o Late Revanna, No.1528, 13th B Cross, Kalyananagara T.Dasarahalli, Bengaluru - 560057. **Guarantor: 1) Sri R.Chethan** S/o Late Revanna, No.1528, 13th B Cross, Kalyananagara T.Dasarahalli, Bengaluru - 560057. **2) Sri. Thimmegowda,** S/o Venkatappa, No.259, 4th Cross, Nelagadaranahalli, Bengaluru- 560058.
A/c No: IPL-243, Amount Outstanding as per Demand Notice: Rs.84,98,620/- (Rupees Eighty Four Lakhs Ninety Eight Thousand Six Hundred Twenty Only) as on **03.02.2022,** plus further interest and other charges.
Total amount mentioned in the Possession notice: Rs.Rs.84,98,620/- with further interest and other charges from **04.02.2022.**
Demand Notice Dated : 04.02.2022, Possession Notice Date: 21.04.2022
Description of the Immovable Property: All that piece and parcel of Immovable property being land with residential building bearing Site No.19, Khata No.517 & 518, Sy No.69/7, Mallasandra Village, Kalyananagara, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk, (Presently No.19, 13th B-Cross, Kalyananagara, T-Dasarahalli, Bengaluru-57) BBMP Ward No.13, Bengaluru, Measuring East to West 32+36/2 fts and North to South 30'-0" fts, having a total extent of 1020 square feets and bounded on the: East by : Road, West by :Road, North by : Remaining Property, South by :Private Property.

4. Name and Address of the Borrower / Co-Borrower / Mortgagor / Guarantor : 1) Sri.Chikkanna, S/o Late Eregowda, Smt.Gowramma, W/o Chikkanna Both are deceased to, by legal heir and also the surety **Smt.Shobha, W/o Channankaiah.C,** No.942/689/196-197," Koustubha", Near Honnamma Kalyana Mantapa, Hanumanthanagara Jalamangala Main Road, Ramanagara-562 159. **Guarantor: 1) Sri.Channankaiah.C, S/o Channegowda,** No.942/689/196-197," Koustubha", Near Honnamma Kalyana Mantapa, Hanumanthanagara Jalamangala Main Road, Ramanagara-562 159.
A/c No: IPL-02, Amount Outstanding as per Demand Notice: Rs.42,79,025/- (Rupees Forty Two Lakhs Seventy Nine Thousand Twenty Five Only) as on **09.02.2022,** plus further interest and other charges.
Total amount mentioned in the Possession notice: Rs.42,79,025/- with further interest and other charges from **10.02.2022.**
Demand Notice Dated : 10.02.2022, Possession Notice Date: 21.04.2022
Description of the Immovable Property: All that piece and parcel of Immovable property being land with residential building bearing No.942/689/196/197. Situated at Hanumanthanagar, Jalamangala Main Road, Ramanagara Town & City Corporation Ward No.25, Ramanagara Town, Ramanagara Taluk, Ramanagara District. Measuring East to West 40'-0" fts and North to South 60'-0" fts, having a total extent of 2400 square feets and bounded on the: East by : Compound, West by :Road, North by : Road, South by :Jalamangala Main Road.

5. Name and Address of the Borrower / Co-Borrower / Mortgagor / Guarantor : 1) Sri.Umesh Babu, S/o Late C.Puttaswamy, No.148, 4th Cross, 4th Main, H.P.Gas Office Road, Vivekanandanagara, Jeeghenahalli, 2nd Stage, 2nd Block, Ramanagara-562 159. **Guarantor: 1) Smt.Latha K S,** W/o Umesh Babu, No.148, 4th Cross, 4th Main, H.P.Gas Office Road, Vivekanandanagara, Jeeghenahalli, 2nd Stage, 2nd Block, Ramanagara-562 159. **2) Sri Govinda Raju H,** S/o Late Honnappa, No.4, Ramakrishnanagara, Jaraganahalli, Kanakapura Main Road, J.P.Nagar, Bengaluru-560078.
A/c No: IPL-24, Amount Outstanding as per Demand Notice: Rs.1,05,92,661/- (Rupees One Crore Five Lakhs Ninety Two Thousand Six Hundred and Sixty One Only) as on **09.02.2022,** plus further interest and other charges.
Total amount mentioned in the Possession notice: Rs.1,05,92,661/- with further interest and other charges from **10.02.2022.**
Demand Notice Dated : 10.02.2022, Possession Notice Date: 21.04.2022
Description of the Immovable Property: All that piece and parcel of Immovable property being land with residential building bearing New Khata No.1576/1984/1677 in Ramanagara City Corporation Khata S.No.1831.Old Municipal Khata No.1677, Jeegenahalli 2nd Stage, Ramanagara Town & City Corporation Ward No.27, Ramanagara Town, Ramanagara Taluk, Ramanagara District. Measuring East to West 39'-0" fts and North to South 40'-0" fts, having a total extent of 1560 square feets and bounded on the: East by : 25 Feet Road, West by :Site No.2, North by : Site No.2, South by :25 Feet Road.

Date : 21.04.2022 **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Place : Bangalore **Mahila Co-operative Bank Ltd.,**

EQUITAS SMALL FINANCE BANK LTD

(FORMERLY KNOWN AS EQUITAS FINACNE LTD)
Registered Office: No.769, Spencer Plaza, 4th Floor, Phase-II, Anna Salai, Chennai, TN - 600 002. # 044-42995000, 044-42995050

DEMAND NOTICE- NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13 (2) OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002

NOTICE is hereby given that the following borrower/s have availed loan from **Equitas Housing Finance Limited (EHFL) / Equitas Finance Limited (EFL) / Equitas Small Finance Bank Ltd (ESFB)**. The said borrower/s had/have failed to pay Installments and their loan account has been classified as Non-Performing Asset as per the guidelines issued by RBI. The details of the secured immovable propert/ties, loan and the amounts outstanding as on date payable by the borrower/s are mentioned below. The borrower(s) and the public in general are informed that the undersigned being the Authorized Officer, the secured creditor has initiated action against the following borrower(s) under the provisions of the SARFAESI Act, 2002 and not to deal with the said property. on failure to repay the outstanding dues indicated against their names within 60 (Sixty) days of this notice, the undersigned will exercise any one or more of the powers under sub-section (4) of Section 13 of the SARFAESI Act, including power to take possession of the property/ies and sell the same

Name of the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) (NAME OF THE BRANCH)	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Description of Secured Asset (Immovable Property
Branch : Mallathali L.No: SEMLATL0158279 Borrower: Manjamma H, Co – Borrower: Mahesha MC,	15-03-2022 & Rs.399665/-	Applicant:Manjamma All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing kariyappanaDoddiGramtana old KhaneshumariKhatha No.31/5/80/6, New KhaneshumariKhatha No.6/15/2/4, KechanakuppeDhakhale,belongs to KenchanakuppeGrampanchayath, Bidadi Hobli, Ramnagara Taluk, RamnagaraDist, Measuring East to West 15ft, North to South 30ft, Total extent of 450 sq.ft North by :Road,,South by :My remaining property belongs to the Khaneshumaro No,East by :3 ft Passage belongs to this Khaneshumari No,West by :House belongs to Malamma Measurement :East to West 15ft, North to South 30 ft, Total Extent of 450 sq.ft Situated at within the Sub-Registration District of Ramnagara and Registrataion District of Bangalore

Date : 23-04-2022 Place :Bangalore — Sd/-Authorized Officer,Equitas Small Finance Bank Ltd

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that, my client viz. **M/s. Uday Kumar Marketing**, a Proprietary concern, Rep. by its Proprietrix Smt. J.K. Praveena Kumari, W/o. J.K. Rajesh Singh, Rep. by G.P.A. Holder, Sri J.K. Rajesh Singh, No. 1560, 1st Floor, 20th "C" Cross, 9th Main, "B" Block, Sahakaranagar, Bengaluru - 560 092, entered into an registered agreement of sale on 23/04/2021 which is registered as document No.DNH-1-00962-2021-22, Book - 1, stored in CD No. DNHD.1265 in the office of the Senior Sub-Registrar, Devanahalli, in respect of the below mentioned properties with Sri Pradeep S Wodeyar, S/o. S.S. Wodeyar, resident of No. 25, 1st Main Road, Dwarakanagar (Maruthinagar), Behind Skyline Apartments, Chandra Layout, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru - 560 040, by reducing certain terms and conditions stipulated therein.

In pursuance of the above, now my client is intending to get the registered sale deed in respect of the below mentioned schedule properties in terms of the aforesaid registered agreement of sale. Hence, I request the public that if there is any claim from anybody in respect of the schedule property may raise the objection within **14 days** from the date of this public notice. If inspite of this public notice, if anybody has not raised any objection for the same, my client is prepared to get the sale deed in terms of the agreement of sale.

SCHEDULE - A PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of converted property bearing Sy.No.391/1, measuring 3 Acres 31 Guntas, situated Devanahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District, and the same is bounded on the;

East by : Sy.No.392/5 belongs to Pradeep Wodeyar
West by : Property of Smt. Kalashankar
North by : Property of Patel S. Jayaram
South by : Sy.No.391/2 belongs to Pradeep Wodeyar

SCHEDULE - B PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of converted property bearing Sy.No.392/5 (old Sy.No.392) measuring 1 acre 23 guntas, situated at Devanahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District and the same is bounded on the;

East by : Property of Kodandaramappa
West by : Presently land bearing Sy.No.391/2, 391/3 belongs to Pradeep Wodeyar
North by : Property of Patel Jayaram & Road
South by : Property of Chikkappaiah

J. NARAYANA REDDY, Advocate & Consultant
No. 28/1, 1st Main, 15th Cross, "E" Block, Behind Swathi Hotel, Sahakaranagar, Bengaluru - 560 092 Mobile : 9980940200
Date: 22/04/2022 e-mail: nreddycj@gmail.com

पंजाब नैशनल बैंक punjab national bank

Branch Office: Madurai Main : 284 & 285 West Masi Street, Madurai – 625 001, Phone: 0452-2346949, Email: bo4383@pnb.co.in, Sastra Phone 0452 2601306, Sastra Mail :cs8274@pnb.co.in

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of the Bank/ Secured Creditor, will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is"** on the date as mentioned in the table herein below, for recovery of its dues due to the Bank/ Secured Creditor from the respective borrower (s) and guarantor (s). The reserve price and the earnest money deposit will be as mentioned in the table below against the respective properties.

SCHEDULE OF THE SECURED ASSETS

Lot No.	**1**
Name of the Branch	**Madurai Main**
Name of the Account	**M/s. Arunachala Industries**
Name & addresses of the Borrower / Guarantors account **M/s. Arunachala Industries,** 614, Ranka Apartment, Mission Road, Bangalore - 560 027. **Smt. S.Hemapriya (Partner : M/s. Arunachala Industries),** W/o. Shri. P. Senthil Kamaraj, 614, Ranka Apartment, Mission Road, Bangalore - 560 027. **Shri. C.Nagaraj (Partner : M/s. Arunachala Industries),** S/o. Shir. Chekkayellaappa, Flat No.151, Chaithrasudha, 4th Cross, Arekempanahalli, Bangalore - 560 027.	
Description of the Immovable Properties Mortgaged / Owner's Name (mortgagors of property(ies)) **Property ID - PUNB43830004. The property in the name of Shri. C.Nagaraj (Partner - M/s. Arunachala Industries).** All the piece and parcel of land and building in Sub Registration District : Sub Registrar, Jayanagara, Bangalore Village : Arekempanahalli. Location : Arekempanahalli, 36th Division of Bangalore, Site No.15 in No.19. Extent : East by : Chikkayellappas Property, West by : Chikkayellappas Property, South by : Chikkayellappas Property, North by : Road.	
Dt. Of Demand Notice u/s 13(2) of SARFAESI ACT 2002	**17.11.2014**
Outstanding Amount as on 31.03.2022	**Rs.58,18,246.78 (Rupees Fifty Eight Lakhs Eighteen Thousand Two Hundred Forty Six and paise Seventy Eight only) as on 31.03.2022** plus further interest, costs and other charges thereon from **01.04.2022.**
Possession Date u/s 13(4) of SARFAESI ACT 2002	**06.03.2015**
Nature of Possession Symbolic/Physical/ Constructive	Symbolic
Reserve Price	**Rs.2,91,20,400/- (Rupees Two Crores Ninety One Lakhs Twenty Thousand Four Hundred Only)**
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (Last date of deposit of EMD)	**Rs.29,12,000/- (Rs. Twenty Nine Lakhs Twelve Thousand Only) 30.05.2022 upto 4.00 pm**
Bid Increase amount	**Rs.50,000/-**
Date / Time of E-auction	**31.05.2022 (Tuesday); 11 A.M.**
Details of encumbrances known to the Secured Creditor	Nil

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The sale shall be subject to the Terms & Conditions prescribed in the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 and to the following further conditions:

1. The properties are being sold on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" and WHATEVER THERE IS BASIS".
2. The particulars of Secured Assets specified in the Schedule hereinabove have been stated to the best of the information of the Authorised Officer, but the Authorised Officer shall not be answerable for any error, misstatement or omission in this proclamation.
3. The Sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided at the Websitehttps://www.mstcecommerce.com **on 31.05.2022 @ 11.00 AM.**

For detailed term and conditions of the sale, please refer https://www.ibapi.in, www.mstcecommerce.com

Authorized Officer
Date : 22.04.2022 **PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK**
Place : Madurai **Secured Creditor**

QuoteExpress IF YOU'RE GOING THROUGH HELL, KEEP GOING › WINSTON CHURCHILL

यूनियन बैंक Union Bank of India | आंध्रा बैंक | कार्पोरेशन बैंक

Sanjeeva Reddy Nagar Branch
246/3rd Main Road,
S.R.Nagar, Hyderabad-500038

POSSESSION NOTICE (for immovable property)
{RULE 8(1) OF SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES 2002}

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of **Union Bank of India, Sanjeeva Reddy Nagar Branch** (erstwhile Andhra Bank), Hyderabad, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a **demand notice dated 09-04-2021** calling upon the Borrower/Guarantors details mentioned as under

Borrower/Guarantor	Name	Address
Borrower	**M/s. Sensworx Systems Private Limited**	Plot No.19-A, Satyam valley, Nizampet Road, Rajivgandhi Nagar, Hyderabad-500090
Guarantor	**Mr. Bandarum Manohar**	16-31-532-533/502, KPHB VI-Phase Lane No.1, KPHB Colony Hyderabad-500072
Guarantor	**Mrs. M Rama Devi**	16-31-532-533/502, KPHB VI-Phase Lane No.1, KPHB Colony Hyderabad-500072

to repay the amounts mentioned in the notices being **Rs.2,00,03,648.14 (Rupees Two Crores three thousand six hundred and fourty eight and fourteen paise only)** within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower as well as guarantors having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property in the name of Mr Bandarum Manohar, described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the security interest enforcement rules 2002 on this **19th day of April 2022**

The borrower/guarantors in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Union Bank of India, Sanjeeva Reddy Nagar Branch (erstwhile Andhra Bank) for the amounts **Rs.2,00,03,648.14 (Rupees Two Crores three thousand six hundred and fourty eight and fourteen paise only)** and interest thereon.The Borrower's Attention are invited to provisions of Section 13(8) of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured asset.

Description of Immovable Property:

Nature of	LOCATION
Securities	Residential plot admeasuring 2580 sft bearing plot no 963 off 60feet road,
Collateral	AECS Layout, B Block, Singasnadra, Off.hosur road, Bangalore South, Karnataka-560068. **Boundaries:** East: Site No 962, West: Site No 964, South: Society property, North: Road.

Date: 19.04.2022 **Authorized Officer**
Place: Hyderabad **Union Bank of India**

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED

CUB TRUST AND EXCELLENCE SINCE 1904

Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office : No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001. **E-Mail id:** crmd@cityunionbank.in, **Phone:** 0435-2432322, **Fax:** 0435-2431746

TENDER-CUM-AUCTION SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002

The following property/ies mortgaged to **City Union Bank Limited** will be sold in Re-Tender-cum-Public Auction by the Authorised Officer of the Bank, under Rule 8 (6) & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, under the SARFAESI Act, 2002, for recovery of a sum of **Rs.97,29,305/- (Rupees Ninety Seven Lakh Twenty Nine Thousand Three Hundred and Five only)** as on **20-04-2022** together with further interest to be charged from **21-04-2022** onwards and other expenses, any other dues to the Bank by the Borrowers / Guarantors **No.1) M/s. Sree Lagmamma Enterprises, 11, Thirumalashettyhalli Village, Samethanahalli Post, Hoskote Taluk - 560066. No.2) Mr. C. Raju, S/o. Mr. Chikkanna, No.303, Mallasandra, Hoskote, Bangalore - 560066. No.3) Mrs. Sunandamma, W/o. Mr. C. Raju, No.303, Mallasandra, Hoskote, Bangalore - 560066.**

Immovable Properties Mortgaged to our Bank

Property - 1:- (Property Owned by Mrs. Sunandamma, W/o. Mr. C. Raju)

All that piece and parcel of land bearing Sy.No.2/1, Mallasandra Village, Kasaba Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Bangalore measuring 2 Guntas out of 1.30 Guntas and bounded on the:- East by - Balance Land in Same Sy.No., West by - Balance Land in Same Sy.No., North by - 20 ft. Road, South by - M.M. Lakshmana Murthi's Property.

Reserve Price: Rs.57,50,000/-
(Rupees Fifty Seven Lakh Fifty Thousand Only)

Property - 2:- (Property Owned by Mrs. Sunandamma, W/o. Mr. C. Raju)

All that piece and parcel of vacant land bearing Site No.140 formed in No.188/2A situated at Koralur Village, Kasaba Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Bangalore measuring 1 Gunta out of 4 ¼ Guntas and bounded on the:- East by - Remaining land in Same Sy.No., West by - Nanjundappa's Property, North by - Govt. Road, South by - Murugesh's Property.

Reserve Price: Rs.24,50,000/-
(Rupees Twenty Four Lakh Fifty Thousand Only)

AUCTION DETAILS

Date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale	Venue
02-06-2022	**City Union Bank Limited, Bengaluru - Whitefield Branch,** No.295, Main Road, Opp. Mayura Bakery, Whitefield, Bengaluru Urban - 560066. Telephone No.080-28454282, Cell No.7483060905

Terms and Conditions of Tender-cum-Auction Sale :

(1) The intending bidders should be present in person for the auction and participate personally and give a declaration in writing to the effect that he/she is bidding for himself / herself. **(2)** The intending bidders may obtain the Tender Forms from **The Manager, City Union Bank Limited, Bengaluru - Whitefield Branch, No.295, Main Road, Opp. Mayura Bakery, Whitefield, Bengaluru Urban - 560066. (3)** The intending bidders should submit their bids only in the Tender Form prescribed in sealed envelopes addressed to **The Authorised Officer, City Union Bank Ltd.,** together with a Pay Order / Demand Draft for an EMD of **10%** of the Reserve Price, drawn in favour of **"City Union Bank Ltd.", on or before 12.00 Noon** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. **(4)** For inspection of the property and other particulars, the intending purchaser may contact : **Telephone No.080-28454282, Cell No.7483060905. (5)** The property/ies are sold on "As-is-where-is", "As-is-what-is" and "whatever-there is" basis. **(6)** The sealed tenders will be opened in the presence of the intending bidders at **01.00 p.m.** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. Though in general the sale will be by way of closed tenders, the Authorised Officer may, at his sole discretion, conduct an Open Auction among the interested bidders who desire to quote a bid higher than the one received in the closed tender process, and in such an event, the sale shall be conferred on the person making highest bid. The sale, however, is subject to confirmation of City Union Bank Limited. **(7)** The successful bidder shall have to pay **25% (inclusive of EMD paid)** of the sale amount **immediately** on completion of sale and the balance amount of **75%** within **15 days** from the date of confirmation of sale, failing which the initial deposit of **25%** shall be forfeited. **(8)** The Sale Certificate will be issued by the Authorised Officer in favour of the successful purchaser only after receipt of the entire sale consideration within the time limit stipulated herein. **(9)** The successful purchaser shall bear the charges/fees payable for conveyance, such as stamp duty, registration fee etc., as applicable under law. **(10)** The successful bidder should pay the statutory dues (lawful house tax, electricity charges and other dues), TDS, GST if any, due to Government, Government Undertaking and local bodies. **(11)** The Authorised Officer shall have all the powers to accept or reject the bids or postpone or cancel the sale without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Place: Kumbakonam, Date: 22-04-2022 **Authorised Officer**

Regd. Office: 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, **CIN -** L65110TN1904PLC001287, **Telephone No.**0435-2402322, **Fax:** 0435-2431746, **Website:** www.cityunionbank.com

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED

CUB TRUST AND EXCELLENCE SINCE 1904

Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office: No.24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001. **E-Mail id:** crmd@cityunionbank.in, **Phone:** 0435-2432322, **Fax:** 0435-2431746

TENDER-CUM-AUCTION SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002

The following property/ies mortgaged to **City Union Bank Limited** will be sold in Tender-cum-Public Auction by the Authorised Officer of the Bank, under Rule 8 (6) & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, under the SARFAESI Act 2002, for recovery of a sum of **Rs.24,91,280/- (Rupees Twenty Four Lakh Ninety One Thousand Two Hundred and Eighty Only)** as on **20-04-2022** together with further interest to be charged from **21-04-2022** onwards and other expenses, any other dues to the Bank by the borrowers / guarantors **No.1) M/s. ALT Traders, C-2, Basement Floor, No.43/L, Lorry Godown, 3rd Cross, RMC Yard, Yeshwanthpur, Bangalore - 560022. No.2) Mr. A. Latheef, S/o. Abdul Razaa, at No.51, 4th Cross, Near Sagan Nursing Home, Gangondanahalli, Bangalore - 560039. No.3) Mrs. Afroz Banu, W/o. A. Latheef, at No.51, 4th Cross, Near Sagan Nursing Home, Gangondanahalli, Bangalore - 560039. No.4) Mr. Yahya Akhan Lodha, S/o. Akbar Lodha, at No.263, 5th Cross, Thippu Sulthan Sangharsha Samithi, Gangondanahalli, Bangalore - 560039.**

Immovable Property Mortgaged to our Bank

Schedule - A: (Property Owned by Mr. Yahya Akhan Lodha, S/o. Akbar Lodha)

Property - 1:- All that piece and parcel of Eastern Half Portion of the Property previously bearing Khaneshumari No.C.42, Now Property No.17/A, situated at Gangaondanahalli Village, Yeshwanthpura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Previously Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, Ward No.40, presently within the limit of BBMP Ward No.132. Measuring:- East to West to 15 Feet and North to South : 32 Feet altogether 480 Sq.Ft. along with one square A.C. Sheet House with Cement Flooring, Cement and Bricks used for Construction of Wall, Jungle Wood used for Doors and Windows with all Civic Amenities and bounded on:- East by - Property belonging to Mehaboob Pasha, West by - Western Half Portion of the same Property measuring 15 Feet x 32 Feet this day sold to Mohammed Yasin Bohra and then Property No.17, North by - Private Property, South by - 2nd Cross.

Reserve Price: Rs.35,00,000/-
(Rupees Thirty Five Lakh Only)

AUCTION DETAILS

Date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale	Venue
02-06-2022	**City Union Bank Limited, Bangalore-Rajaji Nagar Branch,** 1002/55, Krk Chambers, Ist Main, 4th Block, 80 Ft. Dr. Rajkumar Road, Bengaluru, Bengaluru Urban - 560010. Telephone No.080-23155151, Cell No.9379757170.

Terms and Conditions of Tender-cum-Auction Sale:

(1) The intending bidders should be present in person for the auction and participate personally and give a declaration in writing to the effect that he/she is bidding for himself / herself. **(2)** The intending bidders may obtain the Tender Forms from **The Manager, City Union Bank Limited, Bangalore-Rajaji Nagar Branch, 1002/55, Krk Chambers, Ist Main, 4th Block, 80 Ft. Dr. Rajkumar Road, Bengaluru, Bengaluru Urban - 560010.(3)** The intending bidders should submit their bids only in the Tender Form prescribed in sealed envelopes addressed to **The Authorised Officer, City Union Bank Ltd.,** together with a Pay Order / Demand Draft for an EMD of **10%** of the Reserve Price, drawn in favour of **"City Union Bank Ltd.", on or before 12.00 Noon** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. **(4)** For inspection of the property and other particulars, the intending purchaser may contact **Telephone No.080-23155151, Cell No.9379757170. (5)** The property/ies are sold on "As-is-where-is", "As-is-what-is" and "whatever-there is" basis. **(6)** The sealed tenders will be opened in the presence of the intending bidders at **01.00 p.m.** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. Though in general the sale will be by way of closed tenders, the Authorised Officer may, at his sole discretion, conduct an Open Auction among the interested bidders who desire to quote a bid higher than the one received in the closed tender process, and in such an event, the sale shall be conferred on the person making highest bid. The sale, however, is subject to confirmation of City Union Bank Limited. **(7)** The successful bidder shall have to pay **25% (inclusive of EMD paid)** of the sale amount **immediately** on completion of sale and the balance amount of **75%** within **15 days** from the date of confirmation of sale, failing which the initial deposit of **25%** shall be forfeited. **(8)** The Sale Certificate will be issued by the Authorised Officer in favour of the successful purchaser only after receipt of the entire sale consideration within the time limit stipulated herein. **(9)** The successful purchaser shall bear the charges/fees payable for conveyance, such as stamp duty, registration fee etc., as applicable under law. **(10)** The successful bidder should pay the statutory dues (lawful house tax, electricity charges and other dues), TDS, GST if any, due to Government, Government Undertaking and local bodies. **(11)** The Authorised Officer shall have all the powers to accept or reject the bids or postpone or cancel the sale without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Place: Kumbakonam, Date: 22-04-2022 **Authorised Officer**

Regd. Office : 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, **CIN -** L65110TN1904PLC001287, **Telephone No.**0435-2402322, **Fax:** 0435-2431746, **Website:** www.cityunionbank.com